Complete Victory
And Nothing Else!

Nippon Times

The Way of the Gods
Is the Way of Japan

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GERMANS GAIN HUGE RESULTS ON EAST FRONT

Smash Crumbling Soviet Lines In Orel-Bielgorod Sector and Seize Large Booty

129 RED TANKS DESTROYED

Soviets Suffer Tremendous Losses in Both Manpower and Material Resources

Domei

BERLIN, July 12.—Continuing their raging onslaughts against the crumbling Soviet lines, the German forces again made tremendous gains yesterday in the Orel-Bielgorod sector, smashing and annihilating powerful Red positions and forces.

After severing the communications of a powerful Soviet force in the Bielgorod sector, the German forces completely annihilated the enemy after taking several thousand Soviet prisoners and seizing a large booty including cannons and other important military supplies. During this engagement 129 Red tanks were destroyed. The Soviet forces were entrenched in a strong position which probably took several months to construct. The entrenchment was heavily protected by tank barriers, mine fields, and a protected line for flame-throwers.

In the Orel sector, the German forces seized several Soviet bivouac despite fierce Red resistance.

Continuing Successes

The German forces are continuing their dazzling successes in their terrific summer offensive, smashing and crushing Soviet positions and forces in the Orel, Bielgorod, Suchimichi, Kirev and Belev sectors, to advance vigorously and deeply into Soviet territory, Colonel Ernst von Hammel, D. N. B. war commentator, reported today.

The substance of his commentary follows:

"The Fuehrer's Headquarters announced today that 28,000 Red troops were captured during the past week. With thousands of soldiers surrendering every day, the immensity of the Soviet losses in both manpower and material resources is readily comprehensible.

"Ever since the German forces regained supremacy over the Soviet forces, the Red forces have continually recruited from their reserve list, and have repeatedly attempted to recapture their dominancy without avail.

"The enemy bridgehead on the Donetz River in the Bielgorod sector has been pushed far northward and westward, while in the Orel sector, the German forces have recaptured a strategical height.

"In the Kirev sector, a Soviet offensive, on a 100-kilometer front, has started in an attempt to dislodge the German forces from this area, but the German forces are stubbornly holding their solid lines.

"The Soviet strategists planned to dispatch several powerful divisions to the front in the eastern and northern Orel sectors, but the alert German forces foiled the enemy plans.

"The German forces in the Suchimichi, Kirev and Belev sectors are also dealing annihilative blows on the Red forces."

NIPPON ECONOMIC BODY REACHES CHINA CAPITAL

Ogura Conducts Talks With Chinese Leaders on Promotion of Trade

Domei

NANKING, July 13.—The Japanese Economic Mission headed by Masatsune Ogura, former Finance Minister, which arrived here yesterday, attended this morning an economic conference sponsored by Chou Fu-hai, Chinese Finance Minister, held at the Yingping Hall.

Chinese representatives at the meeting which lasted two hours were Industry Minister Dr. Mei Sze-ping, Food Minister Ku Paoheng, and Finance Minister Chou.

At the meeting, questions relating to expansion of productivity, promotion of trade between the two countries, stabilization of prices and the Central Reserve Bank notes were discussed.

Following the conference, the members of the Japanese Economic Mission were invited to a luncheon party by Finance Minister Chou at the International Club.

Axis Smashes Back Enemies On Sicily Isle, Foils Plan

Foes Are Confined to Tiny Stretch of Coast in Southwest Corner

Domei

ROME, July 12.—Although the anti-Axis forces attempt to take the island of Sicily, gateway to the European continent, was carried out on a large scale, they have been able to occupy only a small portion of the southeastern part of the island, so far as is known up to tonight, while their parachutist rear-of-the-enemy action ended in utter disaster.

The Axis military authorities have maintained a studied reticence on the war developments since the landing of the anti-Axis forces on Sicily except for brief communiques issued from time to time but according to information unofficially released by the authorities the enemy came in a powerful force of battleships, aircraft-carriers and other classes of warships on the night of July 9.

Accompanying bombardment with the ships' guns on the port of Siracusa and other prospective points of landing, the anti-Axis forces mobilized their air arm to bomb these positions. At 7 a.m. on July 10 with a parachutist unit in advance they are reported to have attended to make landings at several points on the island coast but no exact positions have yet been given out.

The main strength of the attackers consisted of the first, third and 45th infantry division in cooperation with a division of Canadian infantry effected a landing on the southern coast between the Gulf of Licata and the Gulf of Gela. The 51st British infantry division and part of their sixth tank division landed between Cape Crotini and Cape Passero. These forces are regarded as the main strengths of the landing forces but a contingent of their forces attempted to land at the port of Marsala. The latter action, however, seemed only a part of their maneuvering operations and the strength being small was easily repulsed.

Enemy Strategy Failed

It appeared to be the anti-Axis strategy to concentrate the main strength on the southeastern coast of the island and if possible to establish contact between the American and British forces so as to drive the Axis forces into a section of the island southwest of the Palma-Catania line. Presumably to effect this campaign, the anti-Axis forces between July 11 and 12 dispatched parachutists to take the Axis in the rear but the determined resistance of the island inhabitants in cooperation with the Axis forces the troops from the sky were either killed or isolated from the landing forces.

In order that the American and British forces should make contact in the southeastern area, it is absolutely necessary for them to occupy the main road along the seashore with Gela as point of origin. The Axis troops are stoutly holding the road against the anti-Axis invaders, so that such a contact has been found impossible.

All day on July 10 the Axis forces did not move but when the anti-Axis plan of campaign became clearer they called out powerful units of reserves at daybreak on July 11 and drove back the enemy landing forces at all points. The Axis authorities merely state in regard to these operations that they "have recaptured the several points which the anti-Axis forces have occupied and have made attacks on important airdromes." According to unofficial information emanating from the same source, however, the Axis forces inflicted severe damage on the Americans in the fierce engagements that took place in the Gulf of Gela and Gulf of Licata areas and the Americans have been bottled up near the bridgehead where they first landed. The British, too, according to the same information, are merely occupying a shoreline five to 10 kilometers long from Siracusa to Cape Passero.

Such is a summary of the reports reaching the Italian military authorities up to this afternoon.

Foes at Disadvantage

In order that the anti-Axis forces thrust further inland, the Americans must retreat, while the British must use the Cape Passero position they now occupy to secure reinforcements in troops and unload their ships of guns, tanks and other heavy arms. The Italian military authorities acknowledge the fact that the anti-Axis forces still hold a considerable reserve strength and have at their disposal numerous shipping for transportation. The Axis forces, however still hold powerful strategic reserves supported by a network of excellent roads and railways, so that in transit capacity they enjoy decided advantage over the Anglo-

(Continued on Page 2)

Anti-Axis Forces' Attempt to Take Gateway to Europe Is Nipped

Domei

BERLIN, July 12.—The Sicilian front is now at a most important turning point with the anti-Axis landing forces repulsed by the determined resistance of the island defenders.

At daybreak on July 10 the anti-Axis forces convoyed by three capital ships, three cruisers, 10 cruisers and 25 destroyers and borne on 200-300 transports and equipped with 600 troop-landing boats effected landings at three points on the southern coast of Sicily. The next day they landed a three other points in an endeavor to connect the southern coastline of the island extending 160 kilometers and to secure air bases there. The latter attempts, however, have been frustrated by the Axis forces who drove back the Anglo-American forces to the coastal segments.

The anti-Axis strength is estimated at about 100,000 and they are counting on the support of a powerful air arm to capture the island in short order but as the Axis strength is understood to be several times the attackers' the Anglo-American plan is believed more difficult than it was at first expected to be.

The fact that the huge convoy of the anti-Axis forces left Malta for Sicily was already known to the Axis camp on the afternoon of July 9 through air reconnaissance. Owing to the extremely large air force commanded by the attackers, however, the Axis air force available at the moment could not make an effective attack on the oncoming convoy. The view is entertained in some quarters, on the other hand, that the anti-Axis forces purposely allowed the Anglo-American forces to invade the island so as to deal them a crushing blow at the positions they found convenient.

Invaders Repulsed

On the first day of their Sicilian campaign, the Anglo-American forces dispatched a parachutist unit to capture the coastal positions and airdromes to the rear of the defenders so as to facilitate the landing operations. That day the Axis forces moved little on account of insufficient air support but on the second day the Axis forces launched a terrific counter-offensive and repulsed the landing forces at every point.

According to a statement of the German military authorities obtained this afternoon, the main force of the Italian reserve strength has not yet been thrown into the field, nor are their tank units yet directly engag'ed, so that when they are used against the anti-Axis invaders the situation is bound to turn to the advantage of the Axis camp.

At the press conference at noon today, the German military authorities state that unless the anti-Axis forces landed a further large strength on the island their campaign was bound to fail. This was taken to mean that the Axis authorities were confident of annihilating the enemy forces now occupying a small corner of the island.

The anti-Axis forces are giving cover to the landing units and the convoy with their air force from Malta and aircraft-carriers but large bombers sent from distant bases are wholly inadequate for landing operations, so that in order to extend their front they must secure air bases on Sicily.

While the neutral observers are pointing out the favorable turn in the war situation for the Axis London dispatches indicate that the British papers have come to warn the people against an optimistic view of the Sicilian campaign. In German military circles it was said that the present campaign on the island was a mere outpost engagement and that the real battle was expected soon.

Gela Occupied by Axis

Domei

BERLIN, July 12.—After annihilating the anti-Axis parachutist unit, the Axis forces today occupied the port of Gela on the southern coast of Sicily, recaptured the airdrome which the parachutists had occupied and annihilated the second contingent of the anti-Axis forces, according to a statement of the German military authorities.

The Axis camp began throwing a powerful reserve strength into the field yesterday morning, the same source said.

Foe in One Corner

Domei

BERLIN, July 12.—The anti-Axis forces have occupied only a southeastern corner of Sicily, according to the statement made by the German military authorities tonight.

"The area along the seacoast of the island which the anti-Axis forces occupied following their landings

(Continued on Page 2)

FAMINE CASTS BLACK SHADOW ON INDIA CRISIS

Scarcity of Provisions Due To Ineptitude of British Governing Officials

PRICES OUT OF CONTROL

Authorities at Wit's End to Cope With Threatening Situation Throughout Nation

Domei

ZURICH, July 12.—The discontent of the masses in India with the British authorities grows as the food situation gets worse.

Reports indicate that the scarcity of provisions from which the Indian masses are suffering is a direct consequence of ineptitude on the part of the British authorities.

The entire machinery in India for the distribution of foodstuffs has broken down.

But this is not the worst part of the thing. The British authorities have no idea of what to do about the prices of commodities of common necessity which have got completely out of control.

The Swiss newspapers are full of accounts of the food situation in India which for the most part are based on reports in the London Times from its correspondent at New Delhi.

The general drift of these accounts follows:

British Alarmed

"Alarmed by the serious proportions which have been assumed by the food problem, the British authorities in India have made an arrangement under which the governors of various states, their advisers, and representative members of various state assemblies will meet shortly at New Delhi to discuss ways of alleviating the growing shortage of foodstuffs among themselves and with the experts of the Government.

"Civilian experts on the food problem will be pressed into the service of the authorities in their struggle for a solution of the situation. They already are under instructions from the Government to try to agree on some scheme for alleviating the scarcity of foodstuffs by the end of the month.

"This year's anticipated crop of wheat in India represents 10 per cent increase over the actual yield of the grain in 1942. There is all the more reason to blame the difficulty of getting food in India on the failure of the food distribution machinery.

Key of Question

"The key of the whole question of keeping the mass of people in India supplied with food and other things of daily necessity would seem to lie nowhere except in adjusting the whole structure of prices of agricultural products.

"The British authorities in India want to have the people, especially in Bengal and Madras, develop a disposition to subsist on some other grain in addition to rice and millet instead of living only on rice and millet at a time when the fall of Burma has deprived India of its main source of food."

Envoy Leaves for Hsinking

Domei

BANGKOK, July 12.—Cheng Yu, Manchoukuoan Ambassador to Thailand, left here by air today for Hsinking to confer with his Government.

Today's Press Comments

Wednesday, July 14, 1943

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Nippon Times.)

Central Cooperative Conference

YOMIURI-HOCHI—This year's session of the Central Cooperative Council begins today to last three days. Its results will be judged according to the extent to which the aim of strengthening the fighting power of the nation is achieved. As every stratum of the nation is represented at the meeting the composite opinions of the nation will be reflected in the discussions to take place these three days.

What the conferees must guard against is to prevent the session from turning out to be a mere annual event without material results. In this respect, the reforms envisaged for the conference, including the elimination of those elements who are apt to turn mere orators without proposals of real value and the drafting of concrete schemes by the four committees, are undoubtedly all to the good.

We have many things to hope of the session. Chief among them is that the session will concentrate on urgent questions. The first question we have to see the session attack is that of increasing the production of food. This is so important a question that the session might relegate all other questions into the background.

JAPANESE SINK 2 ENEMY CRUISERS IN KULAMBANGRA NIGHT BATTLE; 29 PLANES DOWNED IN AIR FIGHT

Rendova Harbor Again Raided by Nippon Navy Units

BLAST 6 VESSELS

Rice Anchorage and Bairoko Harbor Scenes of Frantic American Landing Efforts

The frantic efforts of the enemy in the Southwestern Pacific area to advance northward from island to island are meeting with terrific counter-drives from the Japanese Forces, and the Solomons area has become a veritable Armageddon with decisive battles being fought on land, sea and in the air.

Rendova was again raided by the Imperial Units last Friday, when five enemy planes and six vessels were destroyed, and on Sunday 24 Vought-Sikorsky fighters were blasted down as Japanese planes dashed into the midst of enemy fighters over Northwestern New Georgia, according to an Imperial Headquarters announcement released at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

The Imperial Headquarters' announcement follows:

"Imperial Japanese Navy Air Units during the day time of July 9 raided Rendova Port and, in an engagement with 20 enemy planes, shot down five of them and sank six warcraft for landing operations. In a combined formation of fighters and bombers they further on July 11 attacked enemy forces being landed at the northwestern coast of New Georgia and carrying themselves daringly right into a group of 40 enemy P-38 fighter planes shot down 24 of them. Three Japanese planes have not yet returned."

Decisive Battles Fought

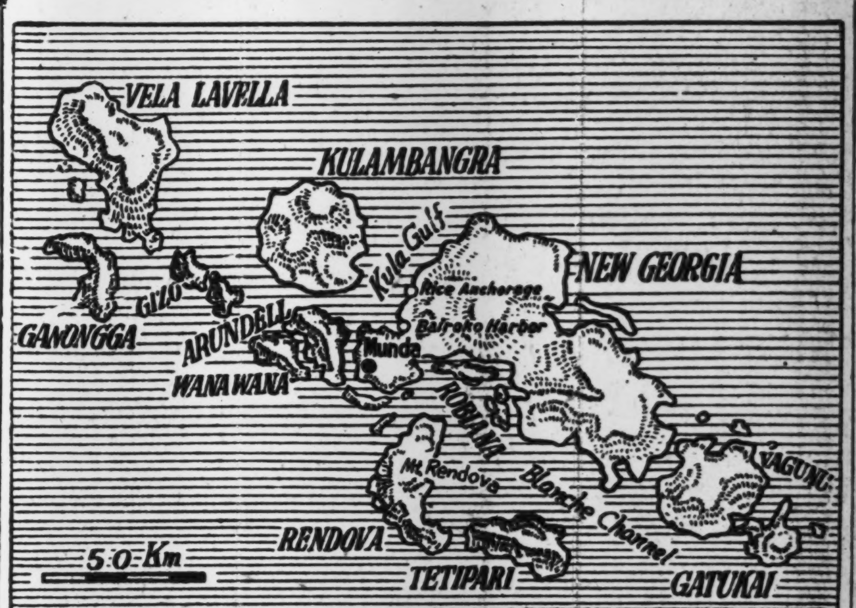
In the face of constant attacks launched by Japanese Forces, the enemy forces in the Southwestern Pacific are making frantic efforts to advance northward from one island to another. A series of decisive battles thus is fought day in and day out in the Solomons Group.

The aerial combat on July 9, as is revealed in the Imperial Headquarters' announcement at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, resulted in the shooting down of five enemy airplanes and the sinking of six enemy vessels for landing purposes at Rendova Port.

The Japanese Navy Air Units on July 11 also swarmed over New Georgia Island in a large formation of fighters and bombers and launched an intensive attack on enemy forces which were landing on the northwestern coast of the same island. The spots where the enemy forces were landing were Rice Anchorage and Bairoko Harbor. A furious air duel ensued and, as a result, the Japanese Air Units immediately shot down 24 Vought-Sikorsky fighters out of 40.

The American forces which effected a landing on New Georgia on June 30 are now engaged in landing more of their units on Rice Anchorage and Bairoko Harbor in the northwestern part of that island in an attempt to take the Japanese base at Munda. A fierce battle is going on between the Japanese and American forces.

Rice Anchorage is on the northwestern coast of New Georgia Island facing Kula Gulf. Bairoko Harbor, too, faces Kula Gulf.



World Interest Spotlighted On Struggle in S.W. Pacific

America Is Flinging Its Whole Power in Desperate Effort to Retake Bases—Fighting Like Cornered Rats Before Production Level in U.S. Crashes

The some 1,000 kilometers stretch lying between Salamaua in New Guinea and the central part of the Solomons is now the object of concentrated world attention. That is because the furious fighting going on since two weeks ago in Rendova, New Georgia, and New Guinea, of which frequent announcements have been made by Imperial Headquarters, constitutes fighting in which America is staking all, throwing in all the power it can, pushing in a huge general counter-offensive; and because the trend still does not allow optimism, and because the fighting here will have an immense effect on the worldwide war. Thus comments the Mainichi.

The direct aim of the present American offensive in the Southwestern Pacific is first, to defend Australia, the orphan of the Pacific by driving back the Japanese Forces even one step from Australia's lines of defense and supply; second to break down one corner of our frontal strategic line binding Sumatra, Timor, New Guinea, the Solomons, and the Bismarck Islands; and third, by this move to make future offensives advantageous.

Australia is the only remaining enemy base in the South Pacific and because of its great strategic value it is a natural step for the enemy to take to attempt to beat back the Japanese Forces even one step and to take their bases. In this move the enemy has penetrated into a part of our setup with its stepping-stone operations having air power at its center. This, as the enemy has boasted, was probably a move aiming at the seizure of Rabaul in New Britain.

Advance Air Bases

The especially notable points in the fighting in New Guinea are that the enemy apparently seeks to advance its air bases there, and by bombing Rabaul and its vicinity to cut off the supply lines running to these areas. For example if the enemy should advance its air bases to the Owen Stanley Mountains, then the distance to Rabaul would be something over 500 kilometers, to Kavieng some 850 kilometers, and about 500 kilometers to Gasmata. This would put these points easily within the operating range of fighter planes and would allow the enemy to carry on operations advantageously.

The enemy, elated by its landings on Rendova, New Guinea and such, is driving recklessly continuing its general counter-offensive but it is noted that this offensive in truth is the only remaining and biggest offensive to be taken to effect a successful break in the difficulties confronting it at home and in the world war. Thus attention is drawn to the fact that the enemy operations in that area are being carried out with a great amount of political consideration.

In looking over the whole of the world war it can be said that there is no area at this present time in which the enemy can move out in a real offensive. Most recently the Anglo-Americans landed on Sicily but they cannot by this deal a decisive, critical blow to the Axis fighting power. Further, the whole of the European continent, from Scandinavia in the north to the coast of the Mediterranean, has been completely fortified by the German-Italian Forces and the situation is such that the enemy cannot in any way set up a second front on the continent as demanded by the Soviet.

In order to counteract and hold down heavy Japanese pressure, America, since the beginning of the war, has been working to draw the Soviet into the war by threats, pleas, plots and trickery and also has even attempted to lease Soviet bases in East Asia. But the Soviet Union shows no signs of yielding. No matter what sort of insidious plot is put to work, the Japanese-Soviet neutrality pact stands strictly observed. Another important fact is that Japan's fighting power in East Asia has been further strengthened by the newly gained Southern treasure houses, and Japan's invincible strategic position can be seen readily to be coming solidly set up.

Demonstrative Move

America was forced to move in some demonstration of an 'offensive' because the blow it suffered in the beginning stages and the war's becoming a long term affair made more intense the unrest in America and in the neutral countries having expectations in America. Thus the difficulty in giving political consideration to these factors and in not being able to find a place for a frontal offensive against Japan was 'solved' in a step of killing two birds with one stone; that of aiding Australia and moving in an offensive in the Solomons.

What can be thought of next is that the present operations are an attempt to break open the economic difficulties in America itself. It seems that munitions production, that which forms the basis for carrying on the war, has reached a peak in America. On June 20, Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson, in a noteworthy declaration said, "Munitions production in certain fields does not reach expectations. The production amount of munitions to be supplied to ground troops was, in May, 3.5 per cent less than it was in April. The War Department views with concern the situation in munitions production."

Inflation Developing

The rapid development of malignant inflation too has called up national and international attention and is contributing much to the decrease of production. In looking over the speed of expenditures for military expenditures it is found that in July, 1940 the amount of expenditures was about $100,000,000; that in December, 1941 the amount had increased to about $2,000,000,000; that in December, last year it had jumped to about $6,000,000,000 and that in April, this year, it reached the tremendous figure of $7,300,000,000. This, together with the increase of general administrative expenses centered around the amount for agricultural subsidies, has become the cause of the inflation.

What is further worthy of attention is the drastic lack in America of strategic war materials. The

(Continued on Page 2)

Munda Base Is Well Defended Against Enemy Attempts

DESTROYERS ACTIVE

One Foe Cruiser Is Set on Fire After Fierce Engagement

While the Japanese Forces defending Munda are launching fierce counter drives on the enemy which landed on New Georgia Island on July 5 and are advancing toward the Japanese base, destroyer squadrons of the Imperial Navy attacked more than four enemy cruisers north of Kulambangra Island on Monday night, sunk two of them, and set another on fire causing the enemy to flee. Imperial Headquarters issued an announcement on this sea battle, calling it the Night Battle Off Kulamangra Island.

The Imperial Headquarters' announcement at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday follows:

"1. The enemy forces which have landed on several points of New Georgia Island since July 5 are now advancing toward Munda from the south and north directions. The Japanese Garrison Forces are launching daring counter-attacks on the raiders.

"2. In line with the counter-attacks, Imperial Japanese Destroyer squadrons, while operating in the sea area north of Kulambangra Island, engaged more than four enemy cruisers which appeared there on the night of July 12, sank two enemy cruisers and set another on fire causing the enemy to flee. The Japanese side had one cruiser heavily damaged.

"(Note): This naval battle is called the Night Battle Off Kulambangra Island."

Five Cruisers Sunk

Composite war results scored by the Japanese Naval Forces in the Night Battle of Kula Gulf and the Night Battle off Kulambangra Island follow:

In the Night Battle of Kula Gulf the Japanese Forces, on July 4, sank one B-class cruiser of the Santa Fe type, one large destroyer of the Strong type, and one warship of an unidentified type. On July 5, they sank instantaneously one B-class cruiser of the Helena type, one cruiser of an unidentified type and one special service ship. In the July 12 Night Battle off Kulambangra Island the Japanese Forces sank two cruisers and set ablaze one cruiser.

Thus the composite war results of the two battles record five cruisers sunk, one cruiser set ablaze, one destroyer sunk, an unidentified type warship sunk and one special service ship sunk.

SPINNING EQUIPMENT RECEIVED IN BURMA

Domei

RANGOON, July 13.—The first shipment of Japanese spinning equipment, including several thousand spindles, arrived here recently in accordance with the Japanese plan to transfer its idle spinning facilities to Burma, it was disclosed today.

This program was decided in Japan last April and is expected to put idle machinery into practical use as well as aid the current clothing material problem and the economic status of Burmese weavers.

The equipment will be installed and put into operation as soon as possible so that adequate threads may be distributed to the local weavers.

It is recalled that prior to the outbreak of the current war, British authorities forced a colonial economy on Burma and prevented the adoption of modern methods by the weaving enterprises. Due to such oppressive policies, there are less than 10,000 spindles throughout Burma today.

The latest Japanese decision, however, is expected to correct the deficiency as well as to assure Burma an absolute self-sufficiency in clothing materials.

JAPANESE SOLDIERS BRAVE IN HARDSHIPS

Imperial Forces Conquer Incredible Difficulties in Indo-Burmese Battle Area

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

The Japanese soldiers stationed in the Indo-Burmese border area which is well known for its heavy rainfall are enduring indescribable hardships and privations particularly in the rainy season. Squalls are as formidable as British enemies, but nothing daunted those hardy fighters are keeping the iron defense tight of the Indo-Burmese border.

The morale of the Japanese warriors entrenched in the Arakan area is more than bolstered. In the Chin plateau they must fight squalls, mud and venomous snakes let alone enemy aerial attacks. They are always prepared to take action at any moment. None other than the Japanese warriors are dauntless enough to go through such hardships as now being courageously endured by those Arakan heroes.

The Indo-Burmese border area entered into the rainy season early in June. Rain falls in torrents day and night. It is not seldom that one squall washes away a bridge, thus suddenly checking the advance of soldiers.

The soldiers are suffering from shortage of fresh vegetables, and are subsisting on dried vegetables. Enemy aerial maneuvers in blind bombing are rather looked forward to by the Japanese, because the bombs recklessly dropped by the enemy were sure to hit some loitering oxen and the soldiers afterward can have a feast on steak. After the enemy blind bombing, open-air stalls are set up where meat is sold in quantities and the Japanese soldiers are seen having a joyous time in purchasing it for their dinner.

Scorpions

Venomous snakes and scorpions molest the soldiers more than anything. Scorpions are so numerous that they sneak into shoes or stick to clothes hung on lines. It is not seldom that the soldiers are awakened by the crawling sounds of an enormous cobra on the roof of their tent. Whenever a cobra is found lying in a coil in the air-raid shelter, the soldiers kill it and take off the skin to use it for the hilt-cover of a sword. The meat is said to be very palatable.

The grave-post of X X commander who met a gallant death in action on May 24 is seen always decorated with cosmos. From the battlefield where the lonely grave-post stands, the soldiers look through their commander's field-glass, at the enemies in X X position. Some of the Nepalese and Gurkha soldiers are seen smoking away cigars while British officers of bad complexion are loitering about the tents.

The Japanese soldiers, their eyes fixed on the Arakan Mountains which look blurred amid lead-grey clouds are patiently waiting for the time when they will be marching across those mountainous areas.

Incredible Hardships

In the southern sector of the Indo-Burma border the warriors who in the recent Arakan campaign achieved a glorious victory for Japan and brought about the "Arakan tragedy," to the enemy, are further fortifying their position. No word can suffice to fully explain the difficulties daily confronting the soldiers, living in tents pitched in the jungle. While they lie down for sleep the rain incessantly disturbs their sleep by drenching them from head to foot. Against torrential downpours raincoats cannot protect them from getting wet though the soldiers are wrapped up in their heavy raincoats. Thus, the soldiers day in and out are fighting the heavy rain. Whenever food supplies become low they catch grasshoppers and toast and eat them. It is said that grasshoppers are very nourishing.

The hardships being endured by the rear units are not less than those of the soldiers at the front lines. The transport units wading through mud up to their knees, must perform their duty of transporting necessary foodstuffs and munitions. No matter how heavily rain is falling or how muddy and slippery the path is, or how dangerous the Arakan precipice is, the transportation units must take supplies to their comrades on the foremost front. Without continuous supplies from the rear, the front position cannot endure.

Malaria is nothing to the soldiers and they do not include malaria in the category of sickness. Tremendous and vicious are the privations now being endured by the gallant fighters, but they are determined never to succumb to any adversity.

Poles Demand Probing

Domei

STOCKHOLM, July 11.—The refugee Polish Government in London requested the British Government to make public the details of the circumstances that caused the death of Polish President General Wladyslaw Sikorski.

A British destroyer brought the remains of the late Polish President from Gibraltar to England last night, according to reports from London.

THAI LEADER IS 46 TODAY

Youthful, Wise and Able Phibun Songkhram Has Led Active Life Serving Country—Is Held in Great Respect by Entire Nation

Premier Phibun Songkhram

By PHROT PHUTTHINAN
Tokyo Correspondent of the Bangkok Chronicle, Nikorn and the Suphab Satri

Today, the 14th of July marks the 46th birthday of Premier Phibun Songkhram of Thailand. This day of the premier's birth is observed throughout the country as one of the most auspicious and as the day of victory, for the leader of Thailand is loved by one and all and greatly respected. Unbounded confidence is placed by the people in this helmsman who, with deep wisdom and great statesmanship, has been steering wartime Thailand on the right path, in full cooperation with Japan, the leading nation in the Greater East Asia War. This day of the premier's birth is celebrated as one of the most precious in the year for Thailand, and the entire Thai people, ever obedient to their beloved leader and fully confident in and sure of him look up to him as the savior of the country and wishes him well from the bottom of their hearts in his weighty and strenuous task.

Today every Thai renews his determination and pledge that he will unstintedly do his duty to the country that is expected of him in order to prosecute Thailand's war to a successful conclusion, and believes that if he does his share of the country's work to the greatest of his ability, this will be the finest gift that he can offer to Thailand's beloved and respected helmsman.

Ever since he assumed the premiership of Thailand, Field-Marshal Phibun Songkhram has strived hard to lead the country on the rapid road to modern civilization and progress, and this he has successfully accomplished, thanks to his enormous thinking capacity, his strenuous personal efforts and his perseverance to lead to a successful finish whatever undertaking he embarks upon. That all his endeavors have been crowned with success beyond even the wildest expectations of the Thais themselves is more than amply proved by the progressive nature of the country today which at once strikes the eyes of the newcomer.

Born in 1897

Field-Marshal Premier Plaek Phibun Songkhram was born on 14th July B. E. 2440 (Buddhist Era) i.e. A. D. 1897 on his father's farm in the district of Amphur Bangkane, Bangkok, the son of a civil official of the Ministry of Interior. Graduating from secondary school, young Phibun entered the Junior Cadet School at Bangkok on the 12th May B. E. 2452. After pursuing his studies for seven years, he graduated from the Senior Cadet School on the 1st May B. E. 2458, emerging as a sub-lieutenant of the artillery battalion. He was promoted lieutenant in B. E. 2463.

Next year, Lieutenant Phibun Songkhram entered the Officers' Training School of the General Staff and graduated from it in the year B. E. 2466. In May of the year B. E. 2467, he went abroad, to France, where at first he studied the language and higher mathematics and then engrossed himself in the study of the technique of artillery gunnery. In B. E. 2468, he entered the French army as an officer of the Artillery Division and pursued studies at the Officers' Artillery Training School at Pautier. In B. E. 2469, he took up studies at the Ecole D'application D'artillerie at Fontaine Bleau, and graduated from it. In addition, he also took part in battle maneuvers in B. E. 2470 at the Valdahon Camp. In September B. E. 2470, Lieutenant Phibun Songkhram returned to Bangkok.

On the 1st of October of the same year he was promoted captain and on the 1st April B. E. 2473 became major. On the 24th June B. E. 2475 came the Coup D'etat of which the future hero of Thailand was one of the leaders. After the successful conclusion of the bloodless revolution he became assistant to the commander of the Artillery Division in the same year. Later on Phibun was made Minister Without Portfolio of the Thai Cabinet and became a member of the General Defense Committee of the Ministry of Defense.

On 22nd September B. E. 2477, he became the Minister of Defense and on the 24th November B. E. 2479 the Dean of Chulalongkorn University, the most important post he held before becoming Minister of Defense being Vice-Chief of the Commander-in-Chief of the Thai Army.

Becomes Premier

On the 16th December B. E. 2481, Colonel Phibun Songkhram became Premier of Thailand, holding concurrently the posts of Minister of Defense, Minister of the Interior and Commander of the Thai Army. In addition, on the 14th July B. E. 2482 he also assumed the portfolio of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the 27th August B. E. 2484, he was made Commander-in-Chief of the Thai Army and Special Commander of the Navy and Air forces, and later he became the Supreme Commander of all the Thai forces.

On the 29th January B. E. 2485, the Thai Assembly of People's Representatives decided unanimously that Premier Phibun should continue in the same capacity and appointed him "Leader of the Nation."

According to the Constitution of Thailand, elections to the Assembly of People's Representatives are held once every four years, and a new cabinet is formed after each election. However, the old cabinet continues to function till the new assembly meets and only after a new cabinet is formed by the new assembly does the old cabinet resign and hand over the reigns of office. Since Phibun Songkhram became premier, one election to the Assembly of People's Representatives has been held. The last election was to have been held in B.E. 2485, that is 1942, after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia and Thailand's entry into it on the side of Japan. But the Assembly of People's Representatives unanimously decided that there should be no elections in wartime and that Premier Phibun Songkhram should continue to lead the country.

Rapid Rise

Premier Phibun Songkhram, a major in the Thai army at the time of the Coup D'etat, by sheer dint of merit, had soon become lieutenant-colonel and colonel and finally Major-General. In the year B.E. 2484 the King of Thailand was graciously pleased to honor the premier with the rank of Field-Marshal. According to the Royal Rescript, although the Premier did not desire any personal rank and distinction, he was asked to accept the rank for the great services rendered by him in the interests of Thailand and for his meritorious work in uniting the Thai Army, Navy and Air forces into one, and also so that he might be the model to the rest of the Thai nation in future and so that his name may go down in Thai History for service to the country and for elevating the status of Thailand in the eyes of the world. Premier Phibun then accepted the honor, and so on the 28th July B.E. 2484, he was made Field-Marshal, Fleet-Admiral and Air-Marshal.

Today, in addition to being Premier and Minister of Defense of Thailand, Field-Marshal Phibun Songkhram is president of various supreme committees that exist one in each ministry and of many others.

Is Highly Decorated

Premier Phibun Songkhram has been decorated with the highest honors of Thailand and other Axis countries. He is the recipient of the Highest decorations of Thailand from the King. Premier Phibun was also decorated by Japan with the First Class Order of the Rising Sun on 27th May B. E. 2482 and with the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun on 25th February B. E. 2485. He has also received the highest decorations from Germany, Italy and France.

After the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, Premier Phibun was again appointed Supreme Commander of the Thai Forces, since the post had been abolished before. He is also the Commander-in-Chief of the Thai Field Police, instituted in order to meet the needs of the war.

Premier Phibun Songkhram, Thailand's genius, is a most patriotic man who worships and values his nation more than his own life. A very modest man he keeps himself busy all through the day. He personally attends to all his routine work which comes piling to his desk in addition to attending innumerable conferences and receiving visitors both foreign and Thai. He executes his work thoroughly and rapidly. A kindhearted, amiable man, everyone who has seen and met him even once loves and respects him and is surprised by his magnanimity. He is polite and gentle to one and all. He is fond of sports and whenever he can take time out from his official duties he plays a set or two of tennis or goes out riding.

He is a born soldier, a sacrificing heroic warrior strong in will but tender in mind. There is no 'no' or 'cannot' in his vocabulary. When he once took ill and the doctors advised him to rest from his work, he said, "please let me die rather than not allow me to attend to my duties." He always says that a man who does not do his work had better not be born since such a one is only a burden to his own nation.

Happy Family Life

The Thai Premier's family is happy one, and all his sons and daughters have been given the best education desirable to the nation two sons and one daughter having been educated abroad. The Premier's wife, the first lady of the land, is very popular and is playing a very important role leading the Thai women in every field of work. She has been a source of great strength to the Premier.

Premier Phibun Songkhram in addition to his experience and abilities in the military, political and economic fields, is also well-versed in culture and literature. He has studied History thoroughly and can also write powerfully, writing being his hobby. His speeches, are convincing, and this has united the entire Thai people in its determination to follow him, because he respects public opinion and nothing is done against the will of the public he has also done much in the cultural field.

Newspapers are very close to his heart and every day he goes through all the newspapers from the first to the last page. To promote the standard of Thai newspapers, he gave his permission for the establishment of the Thai Press Association, of which he accepted to be the patron.

The Premier never thinks of his own happiness, always sharing joy and sorrow in common with the rest of the Thai nation, and devoting all his efforts to overcome all obstacles facing the country and attaining success. He is always solicitous of the well-being of the people and wants to see his people healthy, prosperous and successful. He gives not less than 300 bahts out of his salary every month for public welfare. He wants the march of progress of the Thai nation and its culture to continue even during the emergency of wartime, this altruistic character goes so far that he is all the time thinking and putting into practice new ideas for the development, prosperity and happiness of his people.

Worships Soldiers' Bravery

He can never forget the sacrifices of the Thai forces, and he worships their bravery and heroism.

Whenever he can, the Premier visits the men of the Thai forces at the front, to inspect and observe, and takes pains to see that they are properly supplied and organized. He also likes to listen to the radio and has done much to the advance of radio broadcasting in the country.

On the basis of the close cooperation existing between Japan and Thailand, Premier Phibun endeavors to express his far-sighted policies in clear manifestation of extending collaboration to Japan in every field, to fight this war to victory. He is profoundly grateful to

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FIRST SWIM TOURNEY OF SEASON IS HELD

Thousands Turn Out to See Brilliant Aquatic Events at Meiji Shrine Pool

Last weekend marked the first big swimming meet of the season when a top-notch field of natators from the local universities, colleges, middle schools and clubs competed in the two-day Kanto Open Swimming Championships in the Meiji Shrine pool.

Lured by the excellent weather and the prospect of seeing the local stars in their initial big time competition, the stands were packed throughout the meet. And while no new record was established the caliber of the field, and the spectacle of hundreds of swimmers churning the water of this famous pool all proved thrilling to the shirt-sleeved excited crowd.

Water Polo Contest

One of the three outstanding meets of the year, the championships saw not only the cream of the local men swimmers but included a full program of events in the women's class. In addition, the championships of the Tokyo University Water Polo League was held.

From a standpoint of national interest too, the meet took the form of a grand preview of the national championships, which this year is included in the Meiji Shrine Physical Training Meet to be held next month. For many of Japan's outstanding swimmers both men and women competed over the weekend as members of local school and club teams.

Such luminaries as Ryotaro Fujigaki, Shuichi Murayama, Tomikatsu Amano, Kiichi Yoshida, Ryohei Hirano and diver Masao Takahama, all students of Tokyo universities are sure bets to shine brilliantly in the forthcoming nationals. Among the ladies, Miss Fumiko Hatano of the Tokyo Fourth Prefectural Girls High School and holder of two national records, Miss Keiko Arai, Miss Umeko Sonobe and Miss Morohoshi all came through with good performances and should figure prominently in next month's meet.

Although the serene beautiful form of high divers at the far end of the stadium gracefully executing intricate dives never failed to bring a crescendo of cheers and applause, the scene below of bronzed bodies threshing down the six-laned pool fanned the crowd to the highest pitch of excitement.

Good Record Set

Of foremost in the light of national interest was the time chalked up by Ryotaro Fujigaki in the 200-meter breast stroke. His time of 2 minutes and 45 seconds at this early stage must be considered excellent. By the time the national meet rolls around this Waseda collegian should be near his peak and records may tumble. Fujigaki took another title when he followed up Saturday's victory in the breast stroke by garnering the 50-meter underwater race.

Tomikatsu Amano, holder of world's record in the 1,500 and 1,000 meters free style events, triumphed in the 200 meter free style event Saturday. Amano was pressed closely by Kawamura of Keio University but in the last 20 meters turned on the heat and retained his title with a fair time of 2 minutes 16.2 seconds.

Destined to take up the record-breaking achievements of veteran Amano, is Waseda University's youthful Shuichi Murayama. Displaying flawless form, 19-year-old Murayama breezed to victories in the 1,500 and 400 meters free style. A product of Wakayama Prefecture, Murayama gained national prominence last summer in the Meiji Shrine Physical Training Meet by negotiating the 800 meter free style in 10 minutes 10.8 seconds. It clipped a full two seconds off the national secondary school standard set by Kitamura, 1932 Olympic Champion, nine years ago in this same pool.

Head and shoulders above all competitors for the last several years has been Masao Takahama, Nippon University's diving star. On Sunday displaying the same beautiful form that has carried him to titles in both the spring-board and high-platform in the past, Takahama again was adjudged the No. 1 man in the diving events. One of the few good divers of Japan, Takahama should retain his top position for several more seasons.

The women's events turned out to be an all Tokyo Fourth Prefectural Girls High School affair. The mermaids from this school captured all seven swimming events. Interest here was focused on the performance of Miss Fumiko Hatano, ace free stylist. Holder of two national records, the 200 and 400 meter free style, Miss Hatano retained her title Saturday by taking the 400 meter race in the time of 5 minutes and 4 seconds. However, in the 200-meter race, Miss Hatano bowed to a rising young Miss Keiko Arai, who was clocked in at 2 minutes and 48 seconds. Miss Arai also captured the 100 meter race. The two should provide some exciting moments in the nationals.

The Summaries

200 meter free style: Won by Amano (Nichidai); Kawamura (Keio) second; Tsujita (Nichidai) third; Nagao (Waseda) fourth. Time—2:16.2.

50 meter back stroke: Won by Nishino (Nichidai) Akamine (Nichidai) second; Miyonaka (Nichidai) third; Fujii (Keio) fourth. Time—32.0.

100 meter breast stroke: Won by Suzuki (Hosei); Yoshimura (Nichidai) second; Iwasaki (Keio) third; Ohbayashi (Waseda) fourth. Time—1:14.

1.500 meter free style: Won by Murayama (Waseda); Katayama (Keio) second; Tada (Keio) third; Shibayama (Keio) fourth. Time—19:43.2.

400 meter free style: Won by Murayama (Waseda); Tsujita (Nichidai) second; Amano (Nichidai) third; Nagao (Nichidai) fourth. Time—4:51.6.

100 meter back stroke: Won by Akamine (Nichidai); Nishino (Nichidai) second; Fujii (Keio) third; Shimizu (Nichidai) fourth. Time—1:11.6.

200 meter breast stroke: Won by Fujigaki (Waseda); Suzuki (Hosei) second; Yoshimura (Nichidai) third; Miyazawa (Mito Middle) fourth. Time—2:45.0.

100 meter free style: Won by Hirano (Nichidai); Uyefuji (Keio) second; Koyanagi (Waseda) third; Kawashima (Nichidai) fourth. Time—1:02.2.

50 meter underwater: Won by Fujigaki (Waseda); Iwasaki (Keio) second; Nagazawa (Waseda) third; Itoh (Nichidai) fourth. Time—35.2.

Diving event: Won by Takahama (Nichidai) 78.43 points; Yamamoto (Nichidai) second, 67.46 points; Kataoka (Waseda) third, 61.50 points; Nakamura (Meiji) fourth; Kawashima (Waseda) fifth; Sakano (Meiji) sixth.

Water polo final: Won by Keio University.

Line-ups

Keio	Waseda
Kanda	Koyanagi
Matsumoto	Watanabe
Tada	Fujigaki
Okada	Kondo
Tokiya	Shiokawa
Kurakami	Ohzaki
Tsukamoto	Ohta

Score:

Keio	1	4—5
Waseda	1	0—1

Women's Division

50 meter back stroke: Won by Miss Sonobe (Tokyo 4th); Miss Asaie (Tokyo 4th) second; Miss Miura (Tokyo 4th) third; Miss Kikuchi (Tokyo Kasei) fourth. Time—40.0.

100 meter breast stroke: Won by Miss Morohashi (Tokyo 4th); Miss Muto (Tokyo 4th) second; Miss Tokuyama (Kanto Club) third; Miss Ikeo (Yokohama 2nd) fourth. Times—1:38.0.

200 meter free style: Won by Miss Arai (Tokyo 4th); Miss Hatano (Tokyo 4th) second; Miss Naito (Tokyo 4th) third; Miss Hosono (Tokyo Club) fourth. Time—2:48.0.

100 meter back stroke: Won by Miss Sonobe (Tokyo 4th); Miss Miura (Tokyo 4th) second; Miss Kikuchi (Tokyo Kasei) third; Miss Suzuki (Yokohama 2nd) fourth. Time—1:26.8.

400 meter free style: Won by Miss Hatano (Tokyo 4th); Miss Naito (Tokyo 4th) second; Miss Kubota (Tokyo 4th) third; Miss Hosono (Tokyo Club) fourth. Time—5:54.0.

100 meter free style: Won by Miss Arai (Tokyo 4th); Miss Sonobe (Tokyo 4th) second; Miss Matsuzawa (Wakaba No. 6) third; Miss Ogura (Tokyo 1st) fourth. Time—1:18.4.

200 meter breast stroke: Won by Miss Morohoshi (Tokyo 4th); Miss Muto (Tokyo 4th) second; Miss Ikeo (Yokohama 2nd) third; Miss Ietsuka (Tokyo 4th) fourth. Time—3:25.6.

Dividing event: Won by Miss Nakahara (No. 6 Club) 25.35 points; Miss Kishino (No. 6 Club) second, 23.28 pts.; Miss Sato (Wakaba No. 6) third, 21.91 pts.; Miss Fukumatsu (Tokyo Club fourth. 21.68 pts.

Mt. Fuji Excursion Limited

In limiting the number of mountaineers climbing Mt. Fuji, special tickets to Yoshida Station were put on sale from Thursday and already one-third has been sold out.

U.S. Launches 11 Submarines

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, July 12.—United States naval authorities claimed that a certain dockyard launched 11 submarines during the past 20 weeks, a Washington dispatch reports.

Thai Visitors Arrive

Phairot Jaiyanama, Chief of the Publicity Bureau of the Thai Government, and Prichanusat Panyarachun, President of the Thai Press Association, arrived at Fukuoka on Monday afternoon. They are in Japan at the invitation of Eiji Amau, President of the Board of Information, to inspect and study wartime Japan. Photo shows Mr. Phairot, left, and Mr. Princhanusat, right.

World Is Watching Southwest Pacific

(Continued From Page 1)

gaining of supplies of rubber, tin, quinine, tungsten, Manila hemp, silk and other important war materials has become a headache to the leaders of America's armed forces. The amount of rubber consumed in America in 1941 was 776,000 tons, of which 97 per cent was imported from Malai, the East Indies and other points in East Asia. The stocks held in the spring of 1942 were estimated to be about 700,000 tons, and this amount today, after two years of war, can be regarded as used up. Even with heavy efforts being directed toward the production of raw rubber and synthetic rubber, the yearly total produced will probably not exceed something over 400,000 tons.

Shortages Serious

The lack of other strategic materials is just as critical. From this point it can be understood that America must carry out a counter-offensive now, when its munitions production is at its peak and before the dark political undercurrent comes to the surface. Further, this year can be said to be the year in which America's counter offensive is at its peak.

How enviously America regards the Japanese occupation of the Southern Regions and how much America fears the development and progress going on in those regions goes without saying. The development of the strategic materials in those regions is far beyond expectations and as the years go by the enemy's shortages in these materials will increase just as Japan's power will be further backed by an increase in these materials. Japan's position in these strategic materials will be that of the greatest power in the world.

In addition to this, the Philippines, Malai, Burma, and the East Indies are rapidly developing into true East Asiatic nations. The fact that militarily and politically Japan's position is becoming absolutely invincible has caused the enemy to moan, "Time is on Japan's side" and forced it into desperate action.

Thus the present operations in the Solomons have been launched because America saw in this the only way to break through the military, economic, and political wall facing it. The more it feels this critical situation the more persistent will be its operations. And it can readily be understood why the enemy began one year earlier its planned general counter-offensive.

Position Solid

Against this desperate enemy attempt, the position of our Forces, viewing the whole of the situation, remains as solid as ever with firm Army-Navy cooperation. Whether or not there are some changes in local fighting such as in Rendova and New Georgia, that is natural in war. With two weeks passing since the enemy first landed, the fighting seems now even to be turning in our favor. In the beginning of the operations Frank Knox, America's secretary of the Navy, boasted loudly that the Americans were going to "take Rabaul and then go on to Tokyo," but now, two weeks later, the enemy broadcasts just say that they are beating back the Japanese Forces "before they start for Australia and are bringing disorder to this plan." This only shows that America's plans are not developing as hoped for.

Our position in the southwestern Pacific is now firmer than ever, and not only will the enemy be defeated in the attempt to retake Rabaul, but its offensive will be blasted as something coming under our heels asking to be crushed.

SHIGEMITSU MAKES REPORT TO PREMIER

Ambassador Stahmer Calls on Foreign Minister and Explains European War Situation

Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu after the regular Cabinet meeting was over at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday remained at the Prime Minister's official residence and submitted a detailed report on the international situation and diplomatic affairs during the Prime Minister's absence to Prime Minister Tojo for about 40 minutes.

The regular Cabinet meeting was opened at 1 p.m. and was attended by the Prime Minister who has just returned from his inspection tour of the Southern Regions and all other Cabinet members.

Stahmer Sees Shigemitsu

German Ambassador Heinrich G. Stahmer called on Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu at the latter's official residence at 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Ambassador Stahmer reported the most recent war situation in Europe to the Foreign Minister who in return explained the war situation in Greater East Asia. During their interview which lasted for about an hour they exchanged unreserved opinions on the current world situation.

Anti-Axis Attempt In Sicily Isle Nipped

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have steadily narrowed down under the powerful counter-attacks of the Axis forces. The anti-Axis propaganda machinery, of course, is endeavoring to create the impression that quite a vast region of the island has been occupied, but the fact that the light guns of the Axis troops can sweep every point on the line which the enemy hold shows that they are in possession of only small areas along the coast.

"As regards the bridgehead on the southern coast of the island of which the British speak, the anti-Axis forces there have been literally driven into the sea and annihilated. There is not a trace of the enemy in that sector.

"Thus a survey of the Sicilian campaign situation shows that the anti-Axis forces in the three days desperate fighting have occupied only a small corner of the island on the southeastern coast. The parachutists also have been compelled to abandon all their positions."

Foes Are Confined To Tiny Coast Area

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American forces which must rely on supplies from the sea over a considerable distance.

The Sicilian campaign has now entered a second phase. The anti-Axis forces are unable to make a single move outside the range of their ships' guns, while the light guns of the Axis forces can sweep every point of the coastline, so that the anti-Axis plan is not progressing so smoothly as scheduled.

The anti-Axis forces have thrown an enormous number of ships into this single campaign, using as many as 600 troop-landing boats from those ships. According to a communique issued by the Italian military authorities at noon today, the anti-Axis forces have suffered since they began their landing operations one 10,000-ton cruiser sunk, 10 other classes of warships and boats sunk, five large-sized transports sunk, six cruisers damaged, one warship of unknown type damaged and 42 transports damaged.

Aussies Launch Ships

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, July 12.—A warship and an auxiliary transport to be commissioned to the Australian and American naval forces respectively, have been launched, the Australian Navy Ministry announced today, according to a Melbourne report.

Marquis Okubo Dies; Was 78 Years Old; Attended Peace Talks

Marquis Toshitake Okubo, member of the House of Peers and President of the Japan-Germany Cultural Society, who has been suffering from pneumonia since spring of this year, passed away on Tuesday morning at his residence at Nihonyenoki, Shiba-ku, at the age of 78. Funeral services will be held for one hour from 9:30 a.m. Thursday at the Aoyama Funeral Hall according to Shinto rites. Marquis Okubo, third son of Toshimichi Okubo, one of the most prominent statesmen of the early Meiji Era, attended several international conferences including the Peace Conference at Paris.

NOZOKI-MEGANE

On Subjects Pertinent and Impertinent, Timely And Untimely

By KAN KONDO

If, one of these bright summer mornings you see your whole garden shimmering with lacy cobwebs, it is a sign that the spider migration has begun. These webs are made by baby spiders which, climbing above the nest, emit strand after strand of silk to be caught and drawn away by the breeze. When a strand has been spun strong enough to support the tiny parachute jumper, the adventurous elf, drawing up his legs and clinging to his end of the gossamer, is floated away into a new world. This singular hegira is probably made to protect the myriads of gathered babies from enemies and possible cannibalism.

Caution and patience are two of the spider's chief virtues, for he has so many enemies that much of his time is spent in outwitting them. Blunderers such as large animals and men may destroy his home and crush him to death. Then, since many spiders are cannibalistic, they have to dread their own kind. Birds, mice, beetles and centipedes and the larger ants destroy them. The solitary wasp is especially feared, for this swift and savage marauder stings a spider into a comatose state and then stores his body in the nest for the young wasps to feed upon.

The spider runs the risk of catching the wrong prey in his marvelously contrived trap. Many webs are demolished by things too strong to be held. However, it is amazing what an apparently frail web will hold. Some large spiders ensnare small birds on rare occasions. A spider has been known to even catch a 10-inch garter snake in his web. Of course, the original web did not hold the snake; but the spider worked overtime enmeshing his victim with silken threads. This incredible battle lasted 24 days, and absorbed the attention of the entire countryside. At last, when the spider seemed about to win, someone took pity on the snake and cut it loose from those frail threads of death.

Undiscriminate Preying

Spiders prey chiefly on insects—not discriminating between those beneficial or harmful to man. But the zealous housewife, discovering a spider indoors, should not go after him with broom and righteous wrath. That spider is her friend, catching flies, mosquitoes and other pests.

All the best information indicates that our dread of spiders is baseless. Nearly all spiders have venom, which is used to paralyze their prey, but in most cases this venom is scant and weak in effect, being adjusted to the killing of insects. Many scientists have permitted themselves to be bitten by spiders supposed to be dangerous. All of them report that the effect is hardly worse than the prick of a pin.

According to the personal experience of one man bitten by a fearsome looking spider of the deep woods, a huge gaudy creature, he was in pain for several hours, but no more so than if he had been stung by a hornet. Even the dreaded black-widow has been grossly maligned, although it has been definitely known to have caused death in a small percentage of cases. And the North American Indians used to poison their arrowheads with a paste made from the bodies of dead black-widows.

Many Kinds of Web

The spider's silk is by no means spun solely as a trap for prey. It is sometimes for the protection of eggs or young; sometimes to afford shelter and warmth for the spinner. Different kinds of silk are spun for different purposes; for webs, for the walls of cocoons, for camouflage, for parachute-jumping; and an especially sticky sort to hold more tightly some prey that seems about to escape from the snare.

Not all spiders spin webs. The so-called jumping spiders, for example, although they can produce silk, do not use it for a trap. They stalk their prey. Experts at camouflage they seek out leaves and barks that are colored as they are, and there lie in wait for their victims. The trap-door spider burrows in the ground, lining his tunnel with silk, and constructing a trap-door that is mechanically marvelous. Usually the spider so decorates the door with natural debris that, blending with its surroundings, it is invisible.

The remarkable water spiders run over the surface swiftly and surely. They climb down the stems of aquatic plants, taking with them air-bubbles caught in the hairs of their bodies. One such bubble will last a spider under water for many hours. The true water spider constructs a little silken diving bell. It lives, mates, and brings forth its young in the green privacy of this strange under-water home.

Even the silken snare of the common garden spider is marvelous. Weaving it in a few hours, he dots the shimmering threads with some 00,000 globules of viscid matter that imprisons the luckless insect that touches it. Sometimes the wheel-shaped web is a masterpiece of architectural construction, with hub, radii, and spirals complete. While this web is being made, the noiseless and deft artificer tests with his forefeet the exact distance separating the radii and those separating the spirals. It is said that if a spider's front foot is injured, the wheel constructed will not be symmetrical.

Certain spiders construct long silken tubes which are not only a snare but at the same time a safe abode in which to lurk. If any prey touches the tube, the spider bites it through the silk, paralyzing it: then he will cut open the tube to retrieve his victim.

Female Larger

With many species of spiders the female is much larger and more crafty than the male, and she appears to possess a savagery alien to his comparatively conciliatory disposition. When, therefore, courtship comes, the male spider must make exceedingly wary advances to a voracious, ruthless and cannibalistic Amazon. He does this literally at the peril of his life.

The female is normally intent on nothing but securing food and more food. Sometimes for hours on end the tiny mincing male must display before this gloomy ogre his charms. And he faces not alone her forbidding presence; probably there will be hung about her doorway the dead, desiccated bodies of unwary aspirants, hung there like so many scalps. Sometimes a gravid female will devour every male that comes near her.

Males of certain species of spiders have little odd bright-colored tufts of hair. These they display as they dance before the glowering female, their pitiful antics being always fearful, now ludicrous, now pathetic. Sometimes several males will seek by their fantastic dances to entice a female. While they are dancing, they are fairly safe; for the female may appear surlily amused by their solemn cavortings. But if they stop, she will attempt to catch and devour the whole company of males.

Some males will approach the female with flies or other such tender tokens of affection.

Most web-spinning spiders attract the female by a series of enticing jerks on the web. But since a jerk on the web is also a signal that an insect has run afoul of the snare, the male never can forecast the nature of his reception. He may be taken either to her ample bosom or to her not less ample stomach. Thus, not the least of the wonders of spider life is the hardihood of the males, who, to perpetuate their kind, must constantly face hideous death.

FIRST LIBRARY FOR BLIND TO HOLD OPENING RITES

The building to house the first library for the blind in Japan has been completed at Suwa-cho, Yodobashi-ku, and the opening ceremonies will take place there on July 18.

The project was started through the efforts of Kazuo Homma, 29, who lost his eyesight when six years old, to start a library for the blind.

Realizing that very few facilities for cultural development were accessible to the blind Mr. Homma had determined on the occasion of the 2,600th year celebration of the founding of the Japanese Empire to dedicate his life to the construction of a library for the blind. His privately operated Braille library has been utilized by 1,200 persons up to the present and the average monthly circulation of the books amounted to 1,000 volumes.

In view of the increasing utilization of the library and in response to outside demands, the Military Relief Board, assisted by donations of funds from private and public schools, launched out in the spring of last year to construct the library building with a fund of ¥33,000.

Greatly elated over the materialization of his dream of many years, Mr. Homma commented as follows: "The library work cannot be done by the blind people alone, as the braille books must be produced for us by people who can see and, therefore, I would earnestly ask for the cooperation and assistance of all."

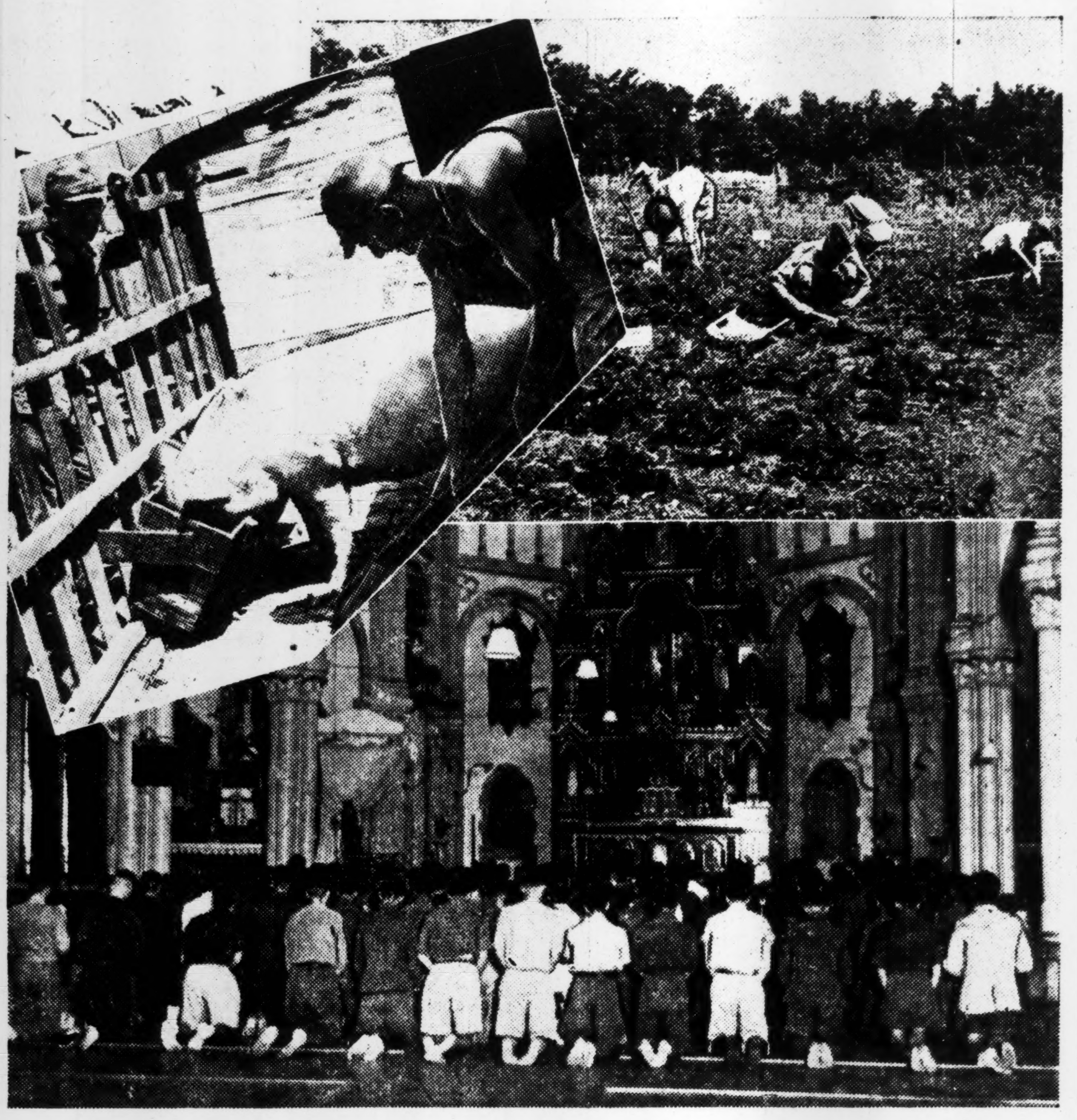
Thai Premier

(Continued From Page 2)

and respects Japan from the bottom of his heart. He does everything to bring ever closer the friendly relationship that binds Japan and Thailand.

The intimate relations between the two countries are clearly seen by the establishment of many collaboratory organizations of the two countries and the several visits of notables and dignitaries of Japan to Thailand. Not long ago H. E. Kazuo Aoki visited our country, and just a fortnight ago Thailand had the unprecedented honor of a visit from H. E. General Hideki Tojo. Besides, the epochal agreement reached between Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo and Premier Phibun Songkhram regarding the incorporation into Thai territory of the Shan area provides the most convincing proof of the close relations between Japan and Thailand.

Life in Prisoners' Camp



Upper two pictures: Some of the prisoners at work outdoors at the Fukuoka War Prisoners' Camp. Lower: Prisoners in the church. After the service they are given an opportunity to pray before the altar.

(Passed by the War Ministry)

2 CENTURIES OF TERROR

India's End as a Great Free Country Came With Britain's Treacherous Victory in Battle of Plassey In 1757—Atrocities Recalled

Editor's Note: The following article on British perfidies in India is written by Kartar Sindh, an internee of the Tokyo War Prisoners' Camp.

The subjugation of the Indian masses by the British forms the worst calamity in modern history. Like vultures, the British came upon the Indian continent when the great Mogul Empire was breaking down, partly by its own weight, and mostly because the ruling hierarchy could not appreciate the real purpose with which the obviously innocent British trader approached the rulers of India.

The princes of of India were militarily strong and so the English and other minor traders from the West made obeisance to them, cajoled them, but be it noted, never threatened them, and obtained numerous favors in matters of trade and commerce until at last the decaying Empire granted them permission to build forts and maintain soldiers for protecting their trade.

That was the beginning of the end of India as a great free country, the country of the Vedas and Upanishads and Gita, the country, of Sree Krishna, Buddha, and Sankaracharya, the country which alone rolled back the victorious armies of Alexander the Great, the land of Puru, Prithviraj, Pratapaditya, of warriors and heroes and poets and philosophers which the once mighty Roman Empire never dared to attack in spite of the legendary wealth that India had and which even attracts invasion.

Only One Sees Through

Only one man, just a boy of 18 years, the grandson of the ruler of Bengal, visualized the real state of affairs. Only Siraj Uddautah, for that was his name, understood the true character of the insidious and vile British and resolved to eliminate the terrible poison that the forefathers of the modern champions of democracy were slowly but surely injecting into the body politic of India.

But alas, it was too late. The poison had already circulated into the main arteries, and he was too inexperienced and young in manipulating court cliques, to stop its spread into the veins.

Nevertheless, when the insolence of the former British beggars, for it was like beggars that they prayed favors from the rulers, came to the point of open refusal to submit to the legal authority of the land, he marched to Calcutta. He attacked the fort that the British built with the former Nabob's permission and made the British soldiers who surrendered quickly, his prisoners. This was somewhere around years 1750-51.

That might have been the doom of the British or any other Western power in India.

But the Nabob's court was dangerously polluted by the British. Many of the nobles dreamt of usurping power from Siraj's young and inexperienced hands, and the hideous British with their perfidious wisdom effectively manipulated these nobles to their own advantage.

A Battle of Treachery

The battle of Plassey, which the British claim laid the foundation stone of the British Empire in India, was really a battle of treachery, bribery, dishonesty, hypocrisy and cowardice, a battle in which the English really excelled in their history of a series of uninterrupted crimes.

This battle was fought at Plassey, some 150 miles west of Calcutta, and on the battlefield, Mir Jafar, the commander-in-chief of the Nabob's forces, conspired with the British and refrained from going into action. Only two minor army officers, Mohanlal and Mirmaden fought the battle with a handful of devoted men and almost routed the cowardly British, when Mir Jafar, seeing the peril that would befall him after the battle had been won, at the hands of the infuriated Nabob on account of his treachery, ordered these two officers, in his capacity as supreme commander, to stop the fighting for the day, arming himself with a forged order from Siraj. It was about nightfall.

Both the patriotic officers, who saw through his treachery, preferred to lay down their lives on the battlefield fighting a lone hand, while the men under them retired with Mir Jafar. Thus, Lord Clive, the British general, won the battle.

The Nabob, learning of Mir Jafar's treachery and finding treachery all around him, fled, was captured and then beheaded ostensibly by Mir Jafar but actually by British orders and his decapitated body was exhibited through all the main streets of Murshidabad hanging on the tail of an elephant.

Terror Reign Follows

Then followed a reign of terror unheard of and unparalleled in the history of the world. It would fill volumes to depict that picture faithfully. England's fabulous wealth was built up in course of a few years following the battle of Plassey by loot and robbery in India.

It sickens me to think about those horrors and just one or two examples will suffice to nauseate any person of average sensibilities.

The first step taken by the British to paralyze our crafts and industries was in the field of spinning and weaving.

Since time immemorial Indian muslins were famed throughout the civilized world for their quality, and the court ladies of ancient Rome and 17th, 18th and 19th century Paris took special care to have themselves adorned with muslins.

The English knew that their products stood no chance against Indian muslins, and to completely eliminate this noble craft of weaving, cut off the thumbs of all weavers and spinners in Bengal.

The supine Mir Jafar gave the English the power and authority to collect land revenues, keeping for himself a certain percentage of the same. And the English went to the task with the zeal of greedy savages.

To extract exorbitant taxes from the peasants and artisans, children were tied to trunks and whipped before the parents until they gave away all they had in taxes. Wives, mothers and sisters and daughters were raped before husbands, brother and fathers by the British brutes and their henchmen. Houses were burnt, properties ransacked, fields ravaged, until at last, within 15 years of British usurpation of power, came the first great famine in 1776. Still, to this date, the people of India recollect the terrible famine with horror, not because it was the only one but because India had her first of the kind in that year and since then famines are the order of the day.

Gov't Without Responsibility

India today has a government which enforces authority but shirks responsibility, which speaks of law and order as long as it suits the owners of ill-gotten property in England and India, and which encourages and supports loot and arson to the extent of anarchy when the victims venture to protest against injustice, or attempt to raise the people from the slumber of ignorance or superstition.

During a famine recently, when people were living on leaves of trees and carcasses of dead animals, being asked by a peoples' representative in the Legislative Assembly of Bengal as to what action the Government was taking for feeding the famine-stricken people, the responsible Government spokesman came out with an amazing retort "Government is not a charitable institution."

On another occasion in very recent years, the Governor-General of India, on being approached by a peoples' delegation with a request for amelioration of famine-stricken people, answered that he could not believe there was any famine at all since there still existed grass on the fields and leaves on the trees! These are but only a few illustrations of the "gracious" rule of the British Government in India and the callous and brutal way in which the masses are treated.

The worst feature of these sordid affairs is that the British not only refrain from doing their duty as the ruling power but actually ban the Nationalist organizations from going to the affected areas and extending relief to the people, out of fear that such help makes the people attracted to those organizations.

Reaction Comes

The reaction against British atrocities after the years following the Battle of Plassey and the subsequent famine of 1773 manifested itself in the now famous Sepoy Mutiny, and although it was crushed, the movement for Indian freedom continued sometimes openly, and sometimes underground due to the oppressive British policy.

Anyway, after the Sepoy Mutiny, the movement was in a lull and for some time Indian people felt themselves quite incapable to combat successfully British domination in India. It seemed to them that the Western Powers were unconquerable and any direct action against them impossible. Just then, thanks to Providence, Japan, an Asiatic Power, came out victorious against one of the mightiest Western powers, in the Russo-Japanese war in 1904-1905. The imagination of the youth in the country was fired and from 1909 up to the present day, there has been a revolutionary nationalist movement going on in India, which, although staunchly supports Mahatma Gandhi, never for a moment hesitates to resort to violent methods whenever there is a possibility of success this way.

In the years 1930-34, there was practically a reign of terror in India in general, and Bengal in particular. Scores of high British officials were shot down by angry youths of Bengal. The Chittagong Armory was raided by some patriots in their hunt for arms, high British administrative and police officials were killed because of the inhuman methods with which the British dealt the non-violent movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi. Chittagong was virtually under Martial law during all these years, and the patriots had to pay dearly.

Hundreds Shot

Hundreds were shot or hanged, thousands were sent to concentration camps without even a trial, and the conditions were so terrible there that many went mad and many committed suicide. The extent of cruelty and cowardice of the British can be somewhat gauged from the fact that in 1932, consequent on an exchange of words between untried detenus and the officer-in-charge over a grave grievance felt by prisoners, all the prisoners were shot at in their cells causing death and injury amongst them.

When I left India in 1941, the people were definitely hostile to any British policy of driving India to war. What else can be expected from a long-suffering people who, though illiterate, have learnt from experience that the British are their only enemy.

The War of Greater East Asia now in progress must have a profound influence on the Indian people. Every staggering defeat that the Anglo-Saxons are receiving at the hands of the Nippon Forces drives another nail in the coffin of British rule in India. The War of Greater East Asia has shred the British jackal of its lion's cloak with which the average people of India have so long been bullied. Besides, we have now a powerful ally in Japan and not entirely isolated as in former days. I do think that my people at home are thinking in exactly the same way as myself.

Asia's Crucial Moment

To me, this war means a crucial moment for India and all eastern nations. The Anglo-Saxons will strive to their maximum efforts to maintain the illgotten possessions they have enjoyed so long, and only a close alliance among the eastern people can speedily bring this war to a successful end.

The British have turned India into a base for operations against Japan and a revolution in India is absolutely necessary to stop further mutilation of India.

Politically, militarily this is indeed the hour for Indian Nationalists to strike, and strike they must.

I do believe that the average Indian soldier is with the Indian Independence Movement as was demonstrated in 1931 when a detachment of an Indian regiment, on being ordered by the British Commander to shoot upon a nationalist procession, flatly declined to do so. They were court-martialled and heavily punished.

Personal Experiences

I, personally, while in India, had on occasions found Indian soldiers violently patriotic to their motherland. Besides, the series of defeats suffered by the British in this war must have brought about a profound disrespect among the Indian soldiers toward their British officers, which is another reason that the Indian soldiers will inevitably join their brothers on the streets and fields when the revolution has begun.

As it is time for action, I would beseech the Japanese authorities to grant me an interview so that I can explain why I came out of India, and the reason for my signing on a Norwegian ship may be put in a nutshell—that I am myself a Nationalist Revolutionary in India and came abroad to look for possibilities of getting arms and ammunition for the use of our patriots. I will speak in detail if called upon to do so. I have already, before being called upon to write this, made a petition about myself to the Commander of this camp.

Frosts Destroy Coffee

BUENOS AIRES.—Large coffee plantations and thousands of coffee trees in Brazil have been destroyed by night frosts, according to reports from Santiago de Chile. This year's coffee harvest in the state of Sao Paulo is estimated at 7,000,000 bags only.

AN ANNAMESE ABROAD

How I Came to Japan

The author, a diligent young Annamese dental student with an engaging sense of humor, came to Japan by way of Shanghai. He is at present a student of the Nippon Times School of Journalism. This is the third fo a series of articles by Mr. Hoquanphuoc on his travels and experiences.—Editor.

On the day following our arrival in Hongkong, my traveling companion took an airplane bound for Shanghai, without having time to fulfill his promise of giving us a Sukiyaki party. The French officer, too, continued his trip to Tientsin, and I was left alone to struggle with my new life.

Mr. Hoquanphuoc

As one might guess, I was summoned by the head of the Education Department only to be sent away without a definite answer. After a week's waiting, I decided to write and remind the Honorable. Head of the Education Department of his reply. A formal, semi-official letter came, reading in part thus:

"In reply to your undated letter, I regret to inform you that you have not been selected . . ."

Two years passed since I met Mr. Takayama. Failing to enter the Hongkong University, I too had left for Shanghai. I was doing well, for in Shanghai I was on my way to success in school, I mean. That year. I passed first in my class, and had my name printed in local papers. It was an honor, also a good advertisement, for two days later, I received a telephone call from my entirely forgotten friend, Mr. Takayama.

"Who? Mr. Takayama?. . ."

"Yes, himself. Don't you remember the Japanese businessman you once met with Mr. 'Bon appetit'?" he said.

True to his word, Mr. Takayama had tried many times to look me up through the address I had given him in Hongkong, and he had just learned from the newspaper of my being in Shanghai, attending a French University.

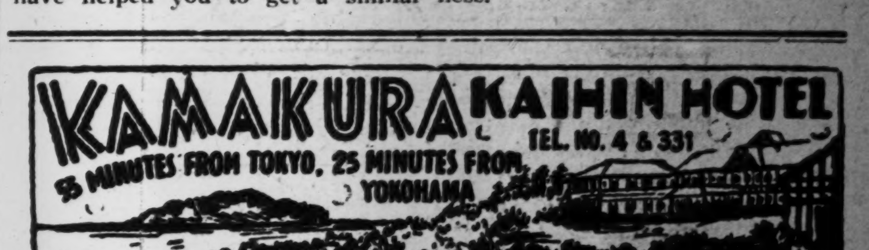
"If you had told me of your trouble with the Hongkong Government's scholarship, I think I could have helped you to get a similar opportunity in Japan. A friend of mine is connected with the International Institute, an association founded by Prince Konoye for the benefit of foreign students residing in Japan, and for all those who want encouragement and help to come to Japan for their studies."

He then gave me the address of the International Institute, urging me to go there and do my post-graduate work. I was only waiting for my studies in Shanghai to be finished to apply for admittance, since I was quite in love with Japan or, to put it more explicitly with Japanese women in general. Hollywood was responsible for that sentimentality, for if I did not weep like many others during the showing of "Madam Butterfly," I was very romantically impressed by it.

When asked why they came to Japan to study, nine out of ten students from various parts of Asia answered invariably: Why, to have a closer contact with Japan, to learn the Japanese language and culture, to take up such-and-such a specialty with the aim of serving my country and co-operating with Japan in the establishment of a New Asia for Asiatics." It is a worthy answer, and I am filled with admiration for these who uttered such words which express their love for their country and their determination to serve it with all their might.

However, I must confess that such noble intentions were not the only things I had in mind. Japan appeared to me as a land of Dreams and Romances, in spite of the present war. A land of Spring and Flowers, of Colorful Kimono and of Gentle Women who served their men devotedly, faithfully, but whose mind was always as unfathomable as a mystery, whose heart's emotions were not expressed by words, but by a thousand graceful gestures that made your heart throb.

That is why long before the present Greater East Asia War I had, besides the aim of perfecting my general knowledge in Japan, an ardent desire to visit the country, not as a great military power but as a land of refined feelings and deep, lasting friendship and happiness.



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'TIGER OF MALAI' SET FOR SOUTH SHOWING

Board of Information Selects Daiyei Picture, 5 Cartoons For Movie Fans

The Board of Information, which recently decided to pick up "The Tiger of Malai," a Daiyei dramatic film as the picture to be sent to the Southern Regions, also selected five cartoon pictures for shipment to the South, including "Juvenile Para-troops," "Nippon Banzai," and "Air Defense Camp on A Mountain."

An unofficial investigation reveals that altogether 1,013 circuit performances of motion pictures in the various remote parts of the country were conducted during May under the sponsorship of the Motion Picture Distribution Company. Attendance figures aggregated 665,844. The districts under the supervision of the Tokyo head office of the Company witnessed 470 shows with 337,365 persons.

Under the support of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, the Ofuna studio of the Shochiku Motion Picture Company is planning to screen a photoplay based on the theme of the neighborhood association in wartime, of which the scenario will be corrected from the cinema-goers.

The leading cultural features scheduled to be released on the local screen in August include "The 19th Year of Showa," "Report of Young Women's Corps," "The Oath for Victory," "We Are Always at the Front," "The Sound Is Alive," and "Tax and Life."

As the ninth recommendation given on domestic pictures of this year, "Tairiku Shin Senjo" (The New Battlefields of the Continent) has officially been endorsed by the Education Ministry. The picture covers the valiant war results achieved by the Imperial Japanese Forces in the grand Chekiang-Kiangsi operations.

Theatrical Notes

By Tsunejiro Amakata

The Shochiku Theatrical Company has started preparations for the make-up of the August programs at the various theaters under its control. Although the details have not been learned, it is understood that the Kabukiza will probably present the popular Kabuki comedy known as "Hirakurige," or the merry-making journey of two lucky Yedo rogues, by Kinka Kimura. This is the play, which caused a pleasant sensation among the theater-going public several years ago in the successive two or three summers. A part of this drama is now being staged at the local Meijiza where it is making a big hit with the audience. Ennosuke Ichikawa and Sumizo Ichikawa who are considered as the best players suited for these two roles will again meet on the same stage next month.

After a lapse of three months, the Shinsei Shimpa theatrical troupe will make a stand at the Meijiza in August.

The Tokyo Gekijo will present a new bill next month with the Zenshinza Dramatic Company playing.

The Takarazuka Theatrical Company will open the Toho Gekijo and Yurakuza in August. The former is scheduled to be occupied by the members of the Moon Class of the Takarazuka Girls' Opera Company, while the latter will present a summer show starring Kenichi Enomoto (Enoken) and his own troupe, whose appearance in the Metropolis will be the first time in the past five months.

Yoshie Fujiwara, world famous Japanese tenor, accompanied by several musicians of note, left Tokyo last week for Manchoukuo, where they will play in Dairen, Hsinking, Harbin and Mutankiang until the latter part of this month.

A dramatic group known as the Shin Nippon recently departed for North Manchoukuo to entertain Japanese soldiers there through arrangements made by the Military Relief Department of the War Ministry.

"The Tiger of Malai," a motion picture hit produced by the Daiyei studio will be dramatized by Keizo Kimura and is to be staged at the Kokusai Gekijo next month with Nakada and Misao Kokubu in the title roles.

Ukrainian Church Head

KIEV.—Bishop Dmaskin of Kamenez Podolsk and Braslav Podolsk has been appointed to head the new onomous Orthodox Church in the Ukraine. Simultaneously the title of Archbishop of Wolynia and Kamenez Podolsk was conferred on him.

Around the Co-Prosperity Sphere

INFORMATION CHIEF URGES CLOSER UNITY

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen's Doctrines Fully Understood by Japan, Says Lieut.-Col. Masuhisa

Hongkong News

An informal talk on matters of general interest, as well as the correct journalistic style of addressing Royalty and high officials was given by Lieutenant-Colonel Masuhisa, Chief of the Information Bureau, in his first conference with representatives of the press.

Lieutenant-Colonel Masuhisa commenced by saying that he was still new to South China and Hongkong and, being a military man, was not yet fully acquainted with the civil side of the administration and problems affecting the welfare of the community here. As far as the military administration of Hongkong was concerned, he added, His Excellency the Governor-General had already expressed his views on the matter and people should abide by what he said.

The Chief of the Information Bureau was for over ten years stationed in Manchoukuo, Peking, Tientsin and other places in the north, but this is his first trip to South China.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen's doctrine on friendship between China and Japan was fully understood by Japan, he continued, and owing to the mischievous machinations of Britain and America, this has not yet been fully achieved.

"Chinese and Japanese are all members of the Asiatic race and should cooperate for the success of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere," he declared.

"With this object in view, the peoples of the two countries should try and understand the habits and customs of each other."

During his recent broadcast to Japanese nationals, he had advised his fellow countrymen to practise economy and to adopt a friendlier attitude towards the Chinese. He regretted that he was unable to speak Chinese as he would have liked to have given similar advice to the Chinese people.

Concluding, he said that the hardships which people were now experiencing were unavoidable during wartime and must be borne with patience and courage until final victory is attained.

Johore Youth Service Troops Doing Wonders in Malai Rehabilitation

Movement Making Big Headway to Create Good Citizens Under Leadership of Son of Sultan of Johore; Aided Authorities During Singapore Siege

Syonan Sinbun

JOHORE BAHRU, June 16.—The excellent way in which the Malai youths of Johore have been co-operating with the authorities since the British were driven out of Johore, was told by Tungku Temenggong Ahmad, Commissioner of the Johore Youth Service Troops, who is a son of the Sultan of Johore.

The idea of forming the Youth Service Troops was suggested by a Japanese official to Inche Mansor bin Haji Bakri, who had rendered services to the Japanese military authorities during and after the siege of Singapore, and was readily adopted by Tungku Ahmad with the sanction of the authorities.

The movement was temporarily established on March 12 last year at a time when the Government could not as yet get the necessary number of laborers to cope with the task of cleaning the town and carting rice, because all the people who had evacuated from Johore Bharu during the war had not as yet returned to the town. The Malai youths came forward under the name of the Johore Youth Service Troops and offered their services to the Japanese authorities.

They carried on the good work of cleaning the town, rendering first aid to the wounded, helping the needy, guiding Japanese soldiers, carting rice and helping the authorities in its distribution. They also maintained a shop at which persons could buy food, as most of the shops had not opened as yet. They opened branches all over Johore and carried on similar work there.

When conditions returned to normalcy and the services of the Troops for cleaning and carting work were no longer necessary, the movement turned its attention to other beneficial activities and took steps to put the movement on a permanent basis.

The chief object of the movement now is to create good citizens by making its members physically fit, disciplined to carry out orders efficiently, and in general self-reliant and thrifty. For this purpose members are encouraged to take part in games, radio exercises in its pavilion and drills.

It has an orchestra of its own and recently sent a team to compete in the All-Malaian Amateur Kronchong Competition held at the New World Amusement Park in Shonan.

Its members have been doing their best not only to grow more food themselves but also to impress upon ignorant people the necessity and advantages of doing so.

Japanese language is being assidously studied by the members, who have made considerable headway in mastering the new lingua franca of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere). Three of its members, Ungku Aziz bin Abdul Hamid, its first Secretary, Ungku Mohsen bin Mohammed and Wan Hamid bin Salleh, are now in Tokyo studying Japanese and culture. Very favorable reports on their progress in Tokyo have been received.

Syed Omar, another of its members, is now in Shonan being trained with 29 others, 15 of whom will be chosen to go to Tokyo for further studies, and was the winner of the lecture competition in Japanese recently organized in Shonan.

At present, the Troops are organized by kampongs, each with its own leader, with Tungku Ahmad as Commissioner, and Inche Mansor as Deputy Commissioner. Its present members are recruited from among bachelors between the ages of 14 and 30 years.

Tungku Ahmad declared that they owed a great deal to the advice and help given by high Japanese officials, and the necessary permission of the authorities to carry on the movement. He also added that the previous Japanese Governor was very greatly impressed with the movement, and the manner in which it had cooperated with the authorities.

HEIHO SYSTEM SEEN POPULAR IN BURMA

Affords Youths to Become Members of Nippon Army—Many Join Movement

Greater Asia. Rangoon

The Headquarters of the Imperial Expeditionary Army in Burma is creating a new organization called "Heiho" to which all Burmese youth are allowed to join. The idea for creating such an organization is to recruit the youth to attain divine principles and crack standard that is befitting an army on similar lines that are prevalent in Japan.

"Heiho" is a patriotic youth organization which is to be adopted and trained by the Japanese Army.

Any Burmese who is between 18 and 30 years of age is qualified to become a "Heiho" so long as he is robust in physique, good in behavior, steady in character and purified in thoughts.

This system will prove to be the best opportunity for Burmese young men who are living under emergency. For, firstly, by being a member of the Heiho any Burmese young man will have the honor to be a member of the Japanese Army. Such honor has never been given to any nationality. In this respect, Burmese youths may be proud of being given this special privilege. Particularly so when they realize that they can take arms to defend their motherland as members of the Japanese Army.

Secondly, Burmese youths who join the Heiho are to be given as strict a military training as the Japanese soldiers. The military training of Japan is to cultivate a spirit of self-sacrifice and a strong fighting spirit. If any Burmese young man joins the Heiho and receives a military training by Japan, it is quite sure that he will become in future an important man who can work for the cause of his motherland—Burma. As a matter of course, he will be respected and his work will be appreciated by all people in his district.

The chance for becoming the first member of the Heiho which is the hope of all Burmese young men, is coming.

In order to make the Burmese people thoroughly understand the purpose of Heiho, five Corps of Information were formed and despatched to various districts.

These Information Corps going to various districts are holding meetings after meetings with the influential men of the districts visited, and at the same time are holding lecture meetings for the public whom they have assembled.

These Information Corps are bringing in successful results with their advertisement with handbills, posters, pamphlets and lectures. Due to this in various districts the patriotic youths of Burma who have longed to cooperate with the Imperial Japanese Military Units are rushing to enlist in the Heiho.

Heiho Member Honored

A Burmese educationist will be given official commendation by the authorities concerned for eagerly co-operating with the Imperial Japanese Military Forces in recruiting Heiho.

U Than, age 46, a honorary principal of Pegu Japanese Language School, knowing full well of the necessity of learning Japanese contributed the use of the High School buildings to the Japanese Army for teaching of Japanese. When the time came for the recruiting of youths of Burma for Heiho Service, he went from village to village and sometimes far into the jungles, actively cooperating with the Japanese Army in assembling youths for Heiho and rendering distinguished service to the Imperial Army.

Orders German Machines

ISTANBUL.—In order to allow of an increase in the Turkish cigarette exports by ensuring first grade serial production, the management of the Turkish State Tobacco Monopoly has ordered 111 of the most modern cigarette manufacturing machines from Germany, it was learned here.

ARMY LAUDS WOMAN FOR PATRIOTIC DUTY

Mrs. Ma Thein Myint Directs Burmese Youths in Construction Service Corps

Greater Asia. Rangoon

The 15,000,000 people of the various districts of Burma following the slogan of "Shorten your longyi and work," are, in compliance with the call by Premier Ba Maw, eagerly enlisting for the Construction Service Corps work.

Although Burma is a country where women do most of the labor work, there was a member of the fair sex who willingly and eagerly of her own accord came forward and cooperated with the Japanese Military Units in laying the foundation for the construction of a New Burma. She took up the responsibility of directing 250 young men and young women in the Construction Service Corps. Her name is Mrs. Ma Thein Myint, age 25, and although she is only a woman she has the ingredient of a powerful leadership in her.

Mrs. Ma is the wife of a prominent figure of the village near where the construction work is being started. Being a daughter of a well-to-do family it was unnecessary for her to do any work, but as soon as this construction work started she volunteered her aid to the Corps. Those who volunteered to this Corps numbered 5,000 in all. And out of this number Mrs. Ma was elected as one of the leaders in the Construction Service Corps. She undertook this hard task with the intention of working, putting her heart and soul into it, forgetting her husband and home until this great task of construction work has been completed.

Sleeping in the barracks lined with mats made from rushes, she gets up at early dawn and works until sunset. With her directing voice the large heavy teak lumbers which are practically impossible to move are carried away lightly. Again at the time when people wanted to go home due to the coming harvest season of Burma, it was she who stood before them comforting them as well as encouraging them to complete their work. She encouraged them on with the following words:—

"You must all think of the troubles and hardships which the Japanese soldiers are enduring for the sake of our country; therefore, we must cooperate and work all we can with this construction or it is inexcusable for us."

It was by her leadership and encouragement that the historical construction work could be completed and it was she who encouraged the members of the Construction Service Corps to donate to the pagodas. This donation was made toward the comforting of the souls of those who died while working on this great Construction Service Corps, sacrificing their lives for the sake of constructing a New Burma State.

Hearing of her gallant, untiring and patriotic services in the Construction Service Corps, a High Commander of an undisclosed unit has sent Ma Thein Myint a gift of certain sum of money.

U.S. Negroes Jailed

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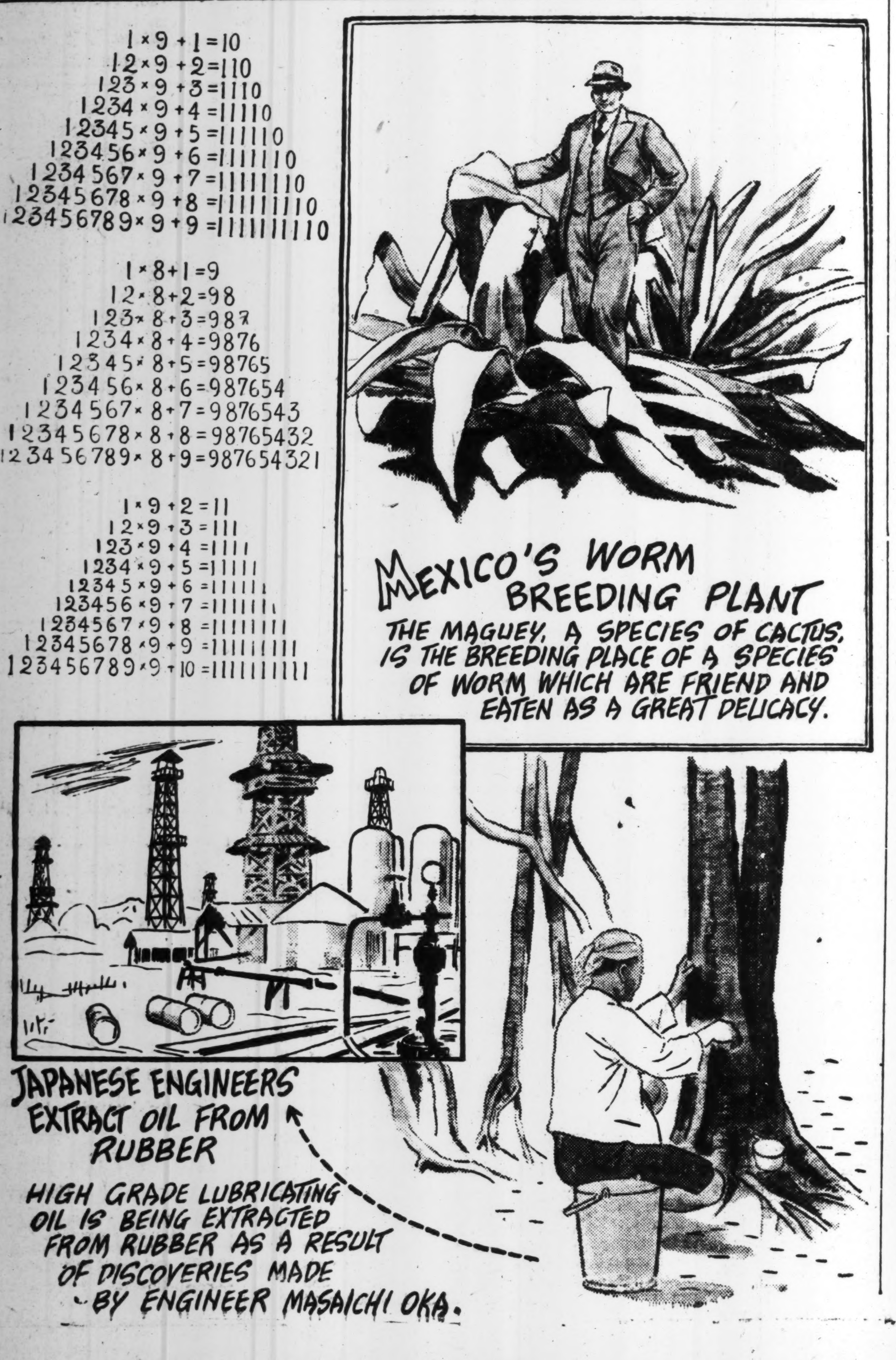

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The Vendetta of Ako

EIJI YOSHIKAWA

TRANSLATED BY TSUNEO TOMONAGA

Chapter 24

Until Further Orders

"Sukei, the Chief-Superintendant's house is here, isn't it?"

"Yes, I will go first."

Tominomori Sukeimon and Yoshida Chuzaemon, still dressed in battle array, spears in hand, walked up to the gate.

"Guard! We are Yoshida Chuzaemon and Tomo Tominomori Sukeimon, former vassals of Lord Asano Takumi-no-Kami. We have a matter of great urgency to report to the Chief-Superintendent. Kindly inform your master of the matter."

Sukeimon shouted his errand, and the gateman came out.

"Wait here," he said, and went inside.

The two waiting comrades could hear the commotion inside the house. Evidently, the Chief-Superintendent's vassals already knew that Kira's head had been taken by the Ako ronin.

As the two comrades waited outside the gate, they attracted the attention of passers-by, and soon a crowd had collected near them. The spectators watched from afar at first, gazing curiously at the blood-stained accoutrements of the two warriors, but they soon approached nearer, and began to address them.

"Honorable ronin of Ako, at last you have done it. All Yedo is agog with the news. . . ."

"Honorable ronin of Ako, why is it that you two have not gone to the Sengakuji Temple?"

"Congratulations!"

"Thank you for all the trouble!"

Some of the spectators, coming near, bowed and thanked the two as though the vendetta had been for their own sakes.

Chuzaemon and Sukeimon remained silent, gazing beyond the gate. The others must have arrived at the Sengakuji Temple by now, they thought. Both Sukeimon and Chuzaemon had been ordered by Kuranosuke to report the matter to the Chief-Superintendent, and they had left the ranks just before they came to Shiba.

Kuranosuke, from his childhood days, had been brought up according to the teachings of Yamaga Soko. Concerning revenge, Yamaga Soko had said:

"When a man has carried out his vendetta, he should at once report to the authorities. This is the law from ancient times. An avenger, by his very act, denotes that he has severed all contact with this life, and it is the logical sequence that he should report to the authorities. He who does not is ignorant of the law."

Kuranosuke had chosen Chuzaemon and Sukeimon, who were the most learned among the ronin, to report to the Chief-Superintendent. He knew it was the proper thing to do, and wished to carry it out before the authorities summoned them. In other words, he chose to submit themselves to the authorities.

Hoki-no-Kami, the Chief-Superintendent, already knew what had happened. When the gateman informed him that two messengers from the Ako ronin were outside the gate, he at once ordered that they should be shown in.

The two ronin had brought a letter of explanation. Hoki-no-Kami took it, and said.

"You have done a commendable thing. I will proceed to the Castle at once, and announce the matter to the Counselors. You two had better rest here at ease until further notice."

The two men were shown into a separate room, and were given some hot food.

The room was a guest-room. Sukeimon turned to the attendant and said, "We are still clad in chain mail, and this room is a guest-room. Please show us to the veranda, for we might soil the mats here."

"Not at all," replied the attendant. "The Chief-Superintendent has ordered that you be shown to this room. Do not worry about it, but please rest at ease."

The two sat down.

Presently, a tea-boy brought in some hot tea, but they refused it.

"We are sorry to trouble you," said Chuzaemon, "but will you take this fried rice, and throw it away somewhere? We brought it with us last night, but we do not need it any longer."

Hoki-no-Kami, in the meanwhile, was hastening toward the Castle in his palanquin, accompanied by his official retinue.

That day happened to be the day when all the lords were visiting the Shogun's Castle. The lords had already heard of what had happened whilst they slept, and the excitement at the Castle was like that of March 14 the previous year, when Lord Asano had attacked Kira.

On that day the consternation of the lords had been darkened with gloomy forebodings, but today the excitement was light and buoyant, as though something joyful had happened.

"I hear a serious affair has occured right under the gracious shadow of His Excellency to spoil the peace. . . ."

That was what each lord said to his companion, what they were obliged to say as officials under the Shogun, but in their hearts all the lords were glad. They were descendents of warriors, and the blood of warriors ran in their veins. The Ako ronin's action had proved to them one joyous thing—that Bushido was still alive.

Even the Shogun Tsunayoshi, who had pronounced sentence on Lord Asano so arbitrarily, sat back and was silent for some time after the Counselors had brought him the Superintendent's report.

"H'm," he said. "Is that so?" The Shogun was deeply moved.

Reports began to pour in as the Shogun sat in the Hall of Justice. From the Office of Temples and Shrines came the report of the Abbot of the Sengakuji Temple. From Kira's mansion, from the Uesugi family, and from the Town Offices too came reports on the matter, each from a different standpoint.

Inspectors were sent to Kira's mansion to question the retainers. Hoki-no-Kami obtained permission from the Shogun to return to his house.

It had been decided that the Ako ronin should be divided into four groups, and given to the care of four lords pending the Shogun's final decision.

A messenger was sent to the Sengakuji Temple with an order that Oishi Kuranosuke and his men should at once leave the Temple, before dark, and betake themselves to the house of Chief-Superintendent Hoki-no-Kami, where they would be told what to do.

The snowfall had stopped, but it was followed by rain. The rain did not stop that day. All roads became veritable bogs.

When night fell, rumors that the Uesugi forces were coming spread through the Superintendent's house. Many believed the rumor, for the night was dark, and the rain favored the silent approach of an army.

(To Be Continued)

Concert Calendar

"Evening with Film and Music," featuring Katsuhiko Haida, to raise funds for the construction of warships for the Imperial Navy, at 1 p.m. today, at the Yurakuza Theater.

"Evening of Japanese Dance and Light Music" featuring Miss Sumi Hanayagi, Katsuhiko Haida and Katsutaro, at 6 p.m. today, at the Hibiya Public Hall. Miss Sumi Hanayagi accompanied by Japanese samisen music, Katsuhiko Haida and Katsutaro accompanied by the Southern Music Ensemble.

The fifth concert sponsored by the Kunitachi Music Composers' Association, Thursday, July 15, at 7 p.m., at the Murayama Music Studio (Rokubancho, Kojimachi-ku). The music rendered by the Nippon String Quartet. The soloists: Miss Mizue Horiguchi, soprano, accompanied by Miss Yukiko Nishida, at the piano, and Ryohei Miyamoto, baritone, accompanied by Miss Yoshiko Watanabe, at the piano. The program includes Masaji Murakami's "A Little Bird"; S. Murayama's "Prayer"; Saburo Tominaga's "The Youth of the Sea"; Toshie Sekiguchi's two lyric songs and Osamu Shibuya's Quartet for string instruments.

Two concerts of "Geino Ongaku," Thursday and Friday, July 15 and 16, at 6 p.m. at the Aoyama Kaikan. The artists includes the Haida Brothers and their Southern Music Ensemble; Taro Shoji; Hiroshi Kikuchi and his band; the Shochiku Light Music Orchestra conducted by Kazuo Tanaka, and the "Star of the Southern Cross" music ensemble.

A grand concert in celebration of the "third memoral day of the Sea", under the joint auspices of the Tokyo Shimbun, Nippon Music Cultural Association, Nippon Gramophone Record Cultural Association Saturday, July 17, at at 12:30 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. The program includes brass band music by the Kaiyo Brass Band, symphony number by the Tokyo Hoso Kangen Gakudan, both of which under the baton of Terunobu Sakanishi; chorus by the Nippon Hoso Gassho-dan accompanied by the orchestra; Soprano solo by Madame Tamaki Miura, lyrico-dramatic soprano, 'koto' by Michio Miyagi, with Miura Tamaki's Chorus Group, directed by Yoshiko Ito, and Miyagi 'koto' ensembles; several songs of the sea by Akio Namihira, Miss Toshi Takatsu; Ryozo Washizaki; Miss Sayoko Iguchi; Kamejiro Ishii, accompanied by the Record Bunka Kyokai Symphony, under the direction of Yoshitsuka Nagatsu.

The third "Popular Music Evening" sponsored by the Oyukai Association, Saturday, July 17, at 5:30 p.m. at the Hibiya Park Open Air Auditorium. The artists: Katsuhiko Haida with their Southern Music Ensemble; Miss Noriko Awaya with her ensemble, and the Shochiku Light Music Orchestra under the baton of Kazuo Tanaka.

A "Gay Dance and Music Evening," featuring Takashi Masuda with his ballet troupe and Miss Noriko Awaya with her ensemble, Monday, July 19, at 6 p.m. at the Hibiya Public Hall.

A three grand ballet evening by the Yusaku Azuma and his ballet troupe, from Tuesday, Juy 27 to 29, inclusive at 6 p.m. at the Kabukiza Theater. The music by the Dai-Toa Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Kojiro Kufune. The program includes Beethoven's Seventh Symphony (adapted to ballet by Yusaku Azuma, the premier performance in Japan); Debussy's "Afternoon of a Faun"; Chopin's "Les Sylphides."

ARAKI'S VENDETTA FEATURED AT TOHO

Play is Given by Shinkokugeki Troupe; General Ricarte's Exile Also Staged

Shin Hasegawa's "Araki Mataemon," an action-packed four-act play dealing with a famous vendetta carried out by Araki Mataemon, famed as one of the most skilfull fencers in Japanese history in the early days of the Tokugawa Era is being featured at the Toho Theater by the popular Shinkokugeki Troupe.

The performance is directed by Mitsuru Taniya and the stage is arranged by Yujiro Hamada. The feature roles of Araki and Kawai Matagoro are taken respectively by Ryutaro Tatsumi and Shogo Shimada, two prominent leaders of the Shinkokugeki Troupe.

Though an old one, the drama has been given a fresh brilliance through a new interpretation of the act of vendetta. The rapid change of scenes in the concluding act is worthy of notice because the technique employed there well demonstrates the dramatic effect of the blood-curdling performance of vengeance.

"Restaurant Manila" is another play given currently at the same theater. It deals with the life of General Artemio Ricarte, one of the veterans of the Philippine Revolution, during his exile in Japan which lasted since 1920 up to sometime after the outbreak of the current war.

An old Filipino named Carlos (General Ricarte), his wife and daughter manage a small restaurant "Manila" at Yamashita-cho, Yokohama. All of the Carlos family are good-natured and are loved by all. As Carlos was often found holding meetings at his home with a number of his fellow countrymen when the relationship between Japan and the United States was becoming strained, his neighbors began to place strong suspicion on him.

Then the War of Greater East Asia breaks out. The Japanese Air Force demolishes every American military base in the Pacific while the Army presses on to Manila. As the Filipino residents in Yokohama, overjoyed by reports of successive victories, donate money to the Japanese Government, the suspicion placed on Carlos is cleared.

Some time later, the old Filipino turns out to be the veteran General of the Philippine Revolution. Through the kind offices of the authorities, he starts for Manila as all of his neighbors give him a hearty send-off.

The play is presented by Takamaru Sasaki. Kisaku Ito is responsible for stage designing.

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Enjoys Filipino's Drama

Lieutenant-General Masaharu Homma, former Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in the Philippines, was a recent visitor to the Takarazuka Theater where he enjoyed "Restaurant Manila," a play featuring the life of a Filipino patriot. Photo shows Lieutenant-General Homma (center) talking with the members of the cast after the performance.

Iguchi Outlines Vital Role Of Japan in Musical World

Japanese Music Is Spreading to the Southern Regions, And It Is Nippon's Duty to Lead the Peoples There To Find and Create Their Own National Music

Accompanying the epoch-making victories of the Imperial Forces in East Asia and the Southern Regions, Japanese culture has spread among the people of the occupied regions and cultural reconstruction is making splendid progress, as Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo personally noted during his trip to the South. In the sphere of music, the foundations are being laid for the musical education of the people, and it is the role of Japan, with her superior musical culture, to help and lead the other peoples in Greater East Asia to create their own national music. Thus declared Mr. Motonari Iguchi, one of the foremost pianists of Japan, in an interview with the Nippon Times musical critics.

Motonari Iguchi has been the first and so far only musician ever distinguished with the annual prize of the Japanese Imperial Academy of Arts. This award was bestowed upon him this spring, in recognition of his fine record as a concert pianist, chamber music player, and musical educator in general, and more specifically for his impressive performance of a Piano Sonata by Saburo Moroi, a successful composer writing in the modernistic, Japanese idiom, in his grand piano recital at the Hibiya Public Hall, last January.

Prospective aspirants for the Academy Prize were heard pounding away on every available piano in the practising rooms at the Ueno music school where Mr. Iguchi, one of the youngest among the regular piano professors of this governmental center of musical education in Japan, received the writer during a brief half-hour off duty, amidst the tense atmosphere of the periodical summer examinations. This is, in essence, what he thinks is going to happen in the world of music:

"Under the leadership of Japan, music will be firmly established in all the countries belonging to the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, with Japanese musicians setting the example. In territories where music as an art is still comparatively little developed, the main task will be the laying of a solid foundation for the musical education of the people; in others where musical activities have been flourishing already, it will be found necessary partly to reorganize the musical activities and to ensure their further development on a healthy basis. In either case, care will have to be taken in order to preserve the national characteristics of each people and to let them freely express themselves in their own music."

That things are easier said than done, this plain truth applies of course to musical policies, too; and indeed Mr. Iguchi hurried to add that a lot of pioneering work will have to be accomplished first, before his picture of musical things to come will be a reality. Committees organized by the Japan Musical Culture Association and other competent institutions under the supervision of the Board of Information are now busily making plans, working out details, and selecting the right men, suitable to carry out Japan's musical mission in Greater East Asia. Meanwhile, Koscak Yamada, who has more and more grown into the post of Japan's musical ambassador at large, is traveling all over the Co-Prosperity Sphere to investigate musical conditions on the spot and establish contacts with musical circles and cultural authorities.

"We, the performing artists, too, will find ample opportunities to cooperate in this great program of musical construction." Mr. Iguchi emphasized in anticipating the future possibilities for Japanese players and singers to extend the stage of their artistic activities not only to Manchoukuo and China, as they have already done in the past, but in due time also to Thailand, Java, the Philippines and other territories.

Interpret Masterworks

And what kind of "music" is going to be made? Are the "Western" classics, the Bach, Beethoven, Tchaikovski, and Debussy, going to be as popular in Bangkok, Manila, Shonan, and Djakarta, as they have been with musical fans in Tokyo and all over Japan?

"Yes," said Mr. Iguchi. "Masters are masters and always will be masters, forever and everywhere. And for the Japanese musicians it will certainly be a very gratifying task to interpret the great musical masterworks for the peoples of East Asia. But at the same time we hope also to introduce as much as possible of our own Japanese music—I mean, the new music of Japan which is now being created by our rising composers. They, too, are being given their great opportunity at the present time, and if it is true that they have been somewhat lagging behind the progress achieved in other fields of music in our country, their recent works seen to show that they are now fully making up for it.

"After all, it seems to be nothing but the natural order of things that the development of musical composition, which means in the end the creation of a new national music, should be the last stage in a country's musical evolution—at least this is what the example of some Western countries has shown. And the final goal of our musical work in Greater East Asia will, of course, not be the 'Japanisation' of its musical life, but—to help and lead the other peoples on their way to create their own national music."

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TOKYO, WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 1943

Le 14 Juillet

Today is July 14, Bastille Day, France's most memorable day. In greeting this significant day it would not be out of place to cast our glance over the tremendous contributions France has made toward the development of world civilization. These contributions have shone brilliantly in the fields of literature, medicine, arts and architecture.

To cite a few examples, there were Louis Pasteur who contributed much to the prevention and cure of various infectious diseases, Mme. Curie who discovered radium in 1901, Racine who contributed to the development of the drama, and Moliere who introduced French literature to the world. Then as we think of the French colonial policy, we recall the name of Marshal Lyautey who is respected by the French people as a genius of colonial administration. In this connection, it should be noted that France's colonial policy in North Africa was particularly successful, notably in the development of Algiers and Morocco.

These brilliant achievements, each of which is deeply stamped in the hearts of the peoples of the world, definitely prove the superiority of the French. Such a nation should survive eternally and always ought to assume an important international position.

But look at France today! The Anglo-American Powers are denying France her proper place in the world. Today North Africa is gradually being turned into an American colony and Martinique in the West Indies is also reported to have surrendered to American tactics. Besides these, poisonous Anglo-Saxon fangs are being extended to many other French territorial possessions. The French Empire is now being dissolved.

Despite the important role France is playing in Europe, neither Britain nor the United States seems to recognize the French position in Europe. Particularly was this intention shown by British Foreign Secretary Eden in his speech in Edinburgh last year and by British Prime Minister Churchill in his address in the House of Commons on March 21. The Anglo-American Powers are attempting not only to destroy the French Empire but also to nullify the role of France in Europe.

In sharp contrast to such unscrupulous and malicious machinations, the Tripartite Powers, Japan, Germany and Italy have always employed and are still adopting the policy of gaining the valuable assistance of the French people for the sake of attaining a new world order. And today it is highly gratifying to note that with the exception of a few French rebels who are under Anglo-American influence, the majority of the French people are heartily cooperating with Japan, Germany and Italy. There is no doubt that the victory of the Tripartite Powers alone will lead them to future prosperity and happiness.

Whatever entangled and troubled condition the world may plunge into in the future, there is no doubt that the highly patriotic French people, who are said to have much in common with the Japanese in point of their sturdy character in the face of adversity, will keep on their friendly collaboration with the Axis Powers.

German-Japanese Cultural Cooperation

Japan and Germany are brothers-in-arms, their destinies inseparably linked in their mutual effort to oust for ever from their respective spheres every last trace of those insidious activities, even extending to culture, whereby the Anglo-American powers sought to disguise and consolidate their efforts to exert and extend political and economic control, consequently a quickened interest by Japan and Germany in the culture of each other is inevitable.

As long ago as 1938, when the Anglo-American determination to maintain the intolerable status quo and the irresistible force surging in Japan and Germany to overthrow it and institute a new world order based on justice and true freedom for all—not freedom for England and America to rule, and freedom for all other nations to be their acquiescent slaves which is what the word "freedom" has been debased to mean in English and American mouths—were obviously headed for open conflict, a cultural understanding was reached in Berlin between Japan and Germany. The object of the agreement was to permit either country to drink more deeply of the Pierian springs of the other's culture, to throw open those inexhaustible cultural treasures of literature, poetry, drama, music, arts and sciences wherein the soul of either nation is mirrored, not only to a few scholars in the two countries, but to the general public also, and mutual understanding thereby fostered.

Now that the war is on in full force, and the ordinary channels of free communication to some extent dammed, any move which tends to increase and facilitate the cultural exchange between the two countries cannot be too highly welcomed and commended. It is, therefore, a matter for the utmost congratulations that thanks to the goodwill of the Reich authorities the efforts made under the basic cultural agreement between the two countries to facilitate the translation of Japanese works into German and vice-versa have borne fruit in the agreement just reached in Berlin whereby the procedure for obtaining copyrights on Japanese and German works for translation into German and Japanese respectively has been considerably simplified. Hitherto would-be translators wishing to add their contribution to the cultural exchange between Japan and Germany were all too often deterred by the complicated formalities that must be gone through to obtain the necessary copyright. Now all a translator in Japan will have to do to secure the requisite copyright will be to apply to the office set up for the purpose in Japan, the Dai Nippon Copyright Protection League, or in Germany to the German Translation Rights Agency, who will attend to the simplified details for him.

With translations thus facilitated the impediment to the free flow of ideas between the two countries caused by the difference of language will be largely overcome. It can confidently be expected that the work of translators will thereby be given great impetus: that the cultures of both Japan and Germany will be vastly enriched by the free in-flow of all that the best minds in its allied country can offer not only in the field of literature but in those of philosophy and science as well.

Either country will now be able to profit more freely by all new processes and inventions in the other; an ever-widening circle of people in either nation will be given free access to the literary and philosophical treasures of its ally. A still firmer cementing of the indissoluble ties that bind the two countries can, therefore, be happily anticipated, a still heightened consciousness of the fact that their ideals and purposes in the present war are one.

A Year Ago Today

July 14, 1942

A Japanese Naval Unit engaged in clearing enemy mines in the Feiyun River today succeeded in establishing contact with Japanese Military Forces operating in the Juian sector at a point near Sianhu on the bank of the Feiyun River, approximately 30 kilometers southwest of Wenchow.

* * *

With the United States Pacific Fleet as well as the American air forces rendered practically useless by the Japanese Navy, United States aid to Chungking has become out of the question. With the situation standing as it is, the formation of a second front in the Pacific by the American-Chungking collaboration has become strategically impossible.

* * *

Japanese Forces smashing southward after capturing Wenchow have advanced to a point 10 kilometers north of Juian, important Chungking port, approximately 20 kilometers southwest of Wenchow.

* * *

Strict secrecy surrounded the reasons for the sudden cancellation of President Roosevelt's regular press conference today. Due to the hush-hush policy adopted by the White House, it is not known whether the cancellation was of a temporary or permanent nature. Certain Washington quarters are of the opinion that President Roosevelt is purposely avoiding meeting the press as well as the public because of internal trouble and the mounting crisis confronting the United Nations.

* * *

Promising mineral deposits, including silver and lead, were discovered by a prospecting party of the Manchoukuo Institute of Scientific Research in the course of an extensive three-week field survey into the Hsingan Mountains in North Hsingan Province. Besides gold and silver finds, rich strata of oil shale in the Samho district, and important deposits of soda and gypsum were discovered.

The Shanghai Evening Post
The Peking Chronicle
The Syonan Sinbun
East Asia's Editorial Forum
Noon Extra
The Hongkong News
DONETZ BRIDGEHEAD CAPTURED
FURTHER EXCHANGES OF NATIONALS CONSIDERED

A Different Kind of War

(From the Noon Extra)

Prior to the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War the United States was in a position to give Great Britain and her allies certain peculiar advantages that far transcended actual American participation in the conflict. The Axis Powers, indeed, were actually guilty of a policy of appeasement because of their sincere desire to maintain friendly, or at least non-belligerent, relations with the United States. Hence Roosevelt was able to order the U.S. navy to "shoot at sight" without definitely precipitating open warfare, while at the same time he turned the United States into a treasury and arsenal of the anti-Axis.

The benefits accruing to Britain and the Soviet Union were enormous, but Roosevelt overplayed his hand and forced war on the United States. The entry of America into the global struggle resulted in the immediate reduction of American aid to the British and Soviets, but psychologically it was a great boon. British and American propagandists immediately began to draw parallels between the first and second World Wars. The weight of the United States, it was claimed, would swing the balance in favor of the so-called united nations.

But this is a different kind of war from the last great madness, for America's aid to Britain was more than counter-balanced by Japan's participation on the side of Germany and Italy, and Japan's triumphs in East Asia far outweigh the temporary successes of the Anglo-Americans in North Africa.

A glance at the war at sea will graphically reveal how different this war is from the last one. Then the Allies were so completely the rulers of the sea at the time the United States declared war that throughout the year and a half America was a belligerent the U.S. navy lost only one light cruiser and two destroyers, with the resulting naval casualties amounting to less than 1,000. In the current war, up to April 25, 1943, the United States has lost, through Japanese action alone, 11 battleships, 12 aircraft carriers, 40 cruisers, 44 destroyers and numerous other war vessels. Scores of other warships of all categories have been damaged. In short, a whole battlefleet has been wiped out; and naval casualties suffered by the United States in this war must be in the neighborhood of 100,000, although the Navy Department in Washington thus far has admitted only some 30,000 men lost in naval action.

This serves to illustrate how completely different this war is from the last one. In 1917 America's entry into the war was a one-sided affair giving the Allies all the advantages. In 1941 America's rash provocation cost a whole battlefleet plus the loss of some of the richest parts of the British and Dutch empires.

Regardless of the frantic efforts of Anglo-American propagandists to paint an optimistic picture, it is an undisputable fact that the anti-Axis has gained but a single victory since America entered the war, while on the debit side of the ledger there are Hongkong, Singapore, Malaya, the Dutch East Indies, the Philippines, Borneo and the Celebes plus the staggering toll of anti-Axis warships lost in the Southwest Pacific and elsewhere.

America's participation might have helped along the victory in Tunisia, but America's participation has also cost the wealth of the Indies and Malaya together with hundreds of American, British, Dutch and Australian warships. For this is a different kind of war.

Anti-Axis Resort to Terrorism

(From The Hongkong News)

The present world conflict represents a struggle between liberty and enthralment—liberty, which one side feels that every country and every man, woman and child in them is entitled to in order that they may so live their own lives and so rule themselves for the benefit of the whole, and enthralment, which seeks to continue its policy of domination and oppression for the mere sake of exploiting and battening on the energies of the people they hope to make their victims. That is the issue which is at present the stake in this world struggle. So far those who are fighting for liberty have been able to assert their power and superior endurance in no uncertain way and already a great part of the world which was previously enslaved to selfish interests and inordinate ambitions has been freed.

These selfish and inordinate ambitions for world domination and exploitation form the basis of the war aims of the anti-Axis nations—or, at least, the war aims of the two leading countries of the anti-Axis bloc. These two countries, Britain and the United States, see in the present trend of the war the steady disappearance of their hopes of being able to achieve these selfish ambitions. The forces of liberty have proved too strong for them.

In their desperation to reassert their evil influence, these supporters of enthralment have resorted to terror methods to secure their obnoxious plans. They are similar to a boxer in a ring who finds that he is losing the fight. He throws caution to the winds, disregards the rules of the game, lashes out wildly and blindly and resorts to tricks and subterfuges to outwit his opponent.

Hence we have an explanation of the wanton terror raids conducted from the air by British and American airmen on undefended cities and towns, the callous attacks on mercy ships, the bombastic utterances of greater and more intensified air attacks on the Axis countries and the brutal conduct of their fighting forces on the field of battle and in their treatment of prisoners and others who fall into their hands. It is in this light that the recent anti-Axis military operations must be viewed.

The incessant and ruthless bombardment of Italian and German cities with utter disregard of humane decency and the cruel slaughter of innocent women and children simply show how desperate the anti-Axis nations have become. This callous conduct has even evoked a grave warning from His Holiness the Pope, who has categorically condemned these inhumane methods of warfare on the part of the anti-Axis countries.

It is, of course, easy to see that the only object behind these terroristic methods is to destroy the morale of the people of the Axis countries. British and American airmen, soldiers and sailors hope no doubt that civilian feelings in the Axis countries will cry out for an end to such mass slaughter. It is here that they make their greatest mistake. These inhumane and callous terroristic methods only serve to strengthen the determination and efforts of the people in the Axis countries to rid the world of such enemies of civilization. It has also increased their determination to avenge all those who have suffered thus from anti-Axis terrorism—and, as such, that determination will prevail in the end until the world is liberated for ever from such brutal and cruel conduct by people who will have no claim whatever to world recognition in the future.

This Is India

By SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

Part IV

With the dawn of the present century there was a national awakening in India on a large scale and Bengal, which had suffered longest from the British yoke, was the pioneer in the new movement.

In 1905 the Viceroy, Lord Curzon, ordered the partition of that province. The official reason given for this action was one of administrative exigency—but the people felt that the object was to cripple the new renaissance in Bengal.

A stormy agitation against the partition was set in motion in Bengal and this was accompanied by a powerful movement all over the country, in the course of which attempts were made to boycott British goods as a retaliatory measure against the Government.

The pressure of these events forced the Government to make another meager concession to popular clamour and so the Morley-Minto Reforms followed. Lord Morley was then the Secretary of State for India and Lord Minto, the Viceroy of India. The Morley-Minto scheme of reforms was first announced in December 1906, and was finally passed into law as the Indian Councils Act of 1909. As a result of official inspiration, a few months before the announcement was made, a deputation of Mohammedan leaders led by the Aga Khan waited on the Viceroy on October 1, 1906.

Separate Electorates Provided

In connection with the impending reforms they demanded that the Mohammedan community should have a certain number of seats reserved for them and that these seats should be voted for, not by the general body of Indian voters, but only by Mohammedan voters. This demand by the Mohammedan leaders of what is known in India as 'separate electorate' was granted in the Indian Councils Act of 1909. This Act provided for enlarged legislative councils both in the provinces as well as at the center. Additional powers were given to the members in the matter of putting supplementary questions, moving resolutions, discussing the budget, etc. The method of election was however indirect and the Act was therefore regarded by many Indians as a retrograde measure in some respects, as compared with the Indian Councils Act of 1892. The constituencies were very small, the largest of them having only 650 voters.

After the introduction of the Morley-Minto reforms, an Indian was for the first time appointed as member of the Viceroy's Executive Council and Sir (later Lord) S. P. Sinha was the first recipient of this honor. This was followed by the visit to India of King George V who was crowned at Delhi as Emperor following the ancient Indian precedent.

Capital Shifted

It was the Viceroy, Lord Hardinge, who was largely responsible for this arrangement, as also for the transfer of the Capital of India from Calcutta to Delhi. Lord Hardinge had a wonderful historic sense and he thought that by these measures British rule would be more firmly installed in India. Others, like Lord Curzon, the former Viceroy, were opposed to these innovations and they felt on the contrary that Delhi had been the grave of many empires. However, the visit of the King-Emperor in December 1911, and the annulment of the partition helped to assuage public feelings and anti-Government agitation subsided to a large extent.

Within the Indian National Congress a split had occurred in 1907 leading to the expulsion of the 'Nationalists' (or 'Extremists') from that body. Moreover, many of the leaders of the Congress Left Wing disappeared from the political arena for the time being—through imprisonment, as in the case of Lokamanya B. G. Tilak of Poona, or voluntary exile, as in the case of Sri Aurobindo Ghosh of Bengal.

All Quiet Till War

Things were therefore quiet till the Great War broke out, when the revolutionary party which had been born during the first decade of this century became very active. During the Great War, public opinion in India demanded an announcement from the British Government regarding the policy of British rule in India. This demand was made all the more because Britain gave out that she was fighting for the freedom of small nations and of suppressed nationalities.

To placate Indian opinion an announcement was made on August 20, 1917, by E. S. Montagu, Secretary of State for India, that the policy of His Majesty's Government was that of "the increasing association of Indians in every branch of the administration and the gradual development of self-governing institutions with a view to the progressive realization of responsible government in India as an integral part of the British Empire." In order to follow up this announcement, Montagu visited India and a joint report was made by the Secretary of State for India and the then Viceroy, Lord Chelmsford, on the question of the Indian constitutional reforms. The reforms proposed in the Montagu-Chelmsford report, were embodied in the Government of India Act, 1919.

New Movement Launched

The inadequacy of these reforms, the atrocities committed by the armed forces of the Crown in the Punjab in 1919 and the attempt of the Allied Powers to dismember Turkey—set in motion a powerful movement in India in 1920 under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. But in spite of the unprecedented awakening in the country no further political advance was made by the British Government. The Government of India Act, 1919, contained a provision for the appointment of a Royal Commission, ten years later, that is in 1929, with the object of determining what further advance, if any, should be made in the direction of self-government. In accordance with this provision a Royal Commission was appointed in 1927 under the chairmanship of Sir John Simon.

The Commission reported in 1930. Thereafter a Round Table Conference of British and Indian representatives, nominated by the British Government, was convened for threshing out the details of the New Constitution. After three sessions of the Round Table Conference, the Government came forward with their own proposals regarding the new Constitution. These proposals were published in March, 1933, in a White Paper. The White Paper was duly placed for consideration before a Joint Committee of both Houses of the British Parliament.

(To Be Continued)

SONGS FROM PRISON

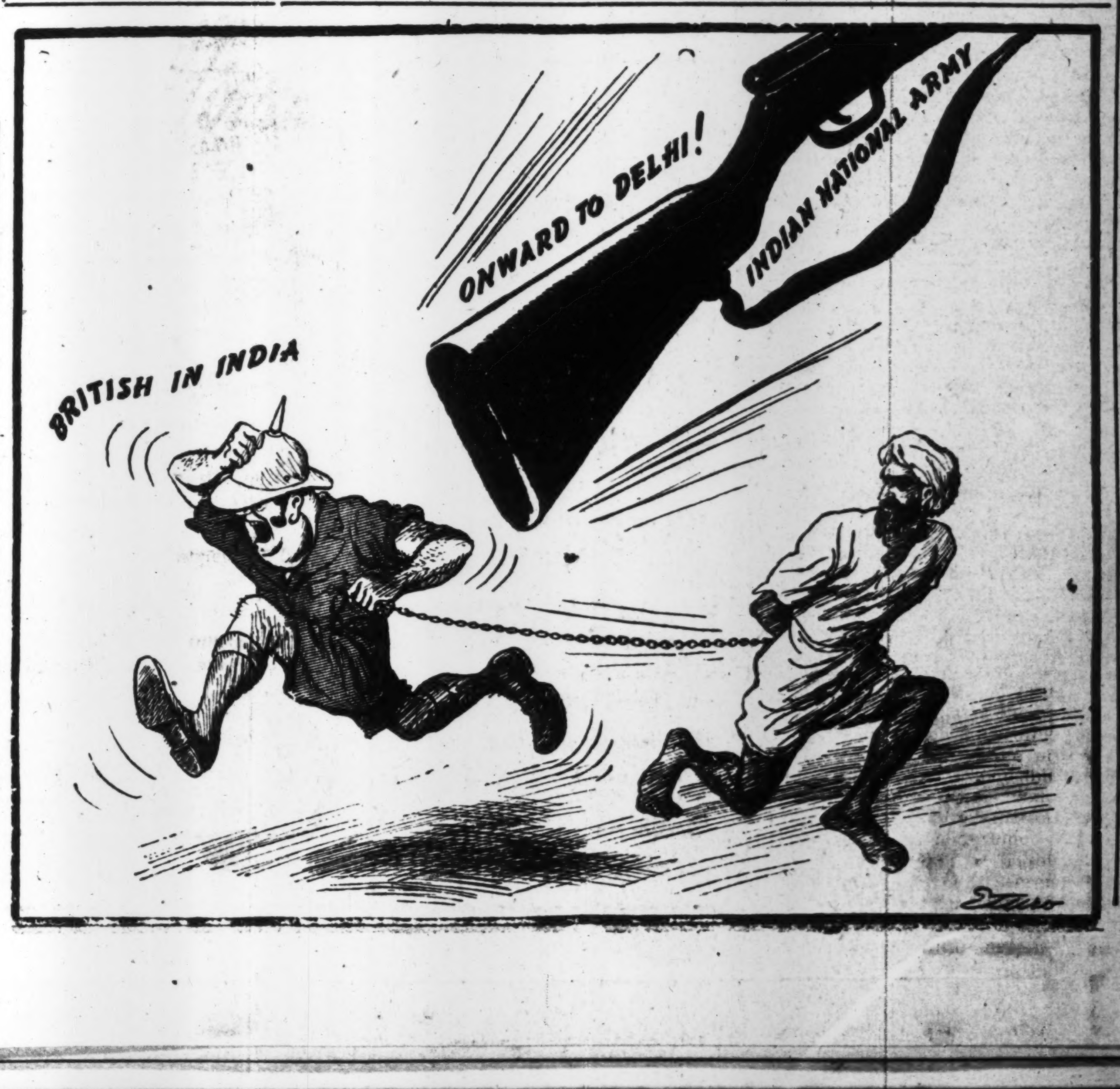
By MAHATMA GANDI

Not to fulfil a desire,
Not from fear or ambition,
Not even to save his life
May a man abandon his vision of
  truth:

Truth stands,
But grief and joy flee away:
The spirit of man is immortal,
Its deeds die not,
And they condition its being:

But the body
Passeth.

Now He'll Have to Get Out



METROPOLIS OF TOKYO FACES BRIGHT FUTURE

Significance of Its Establishment Appraised

By MASAO HOSHINO
(From the Shukan Asahi)

Of all the bills passed at the recent 81st session of the Imperial Diet, perhaps the most significant is the Tokyo Metropolitan Bill. It has a direct bearing on the lives of the 7,000,000 people of Tokyo who make up ten per cent of the population of Japan proper. The fact that a civic improvement of such great importance has been smoothly carried out in the midst of a stake-all war is a matter for genuine congratulation.

The creation of a metropolitan system for Tokyo had been pending over half a century ever since the establishment of the municipality, town and village systems way back in the 22nd year of the Meiji era (1889). The bill was before the Upper and Lower Houses nine and 12 times respectively. In addition, over 40 deliberations were made by the Municipality Administration Council of Tokyo and the League of the Six Largest Cities. That such a historic bill has been passed with but a minor amendment 50 years after its first introduction attests to the political power of the Tojo Cabinet.

The principal obstacle to an earlier passage of the bill seemed to be a drawn-out controversy as to whether the man to head the Tokyo Metropolis should be appointed by the Government or elected by the Metropolitan Assembly. When Baron Kitokuro Ikki was Home Minister in 1915, he stated in the Diet: "Tokyo City far surpasses all the prefectures in importance. The affairs of the city have an immediate bearing on the interests of the State. The propriety of leaving such an important metropolis in the charge of a civic administrative organ is open to dispute. It would be most proper if the city's administration were entrusted to a Shinnin (direct Imperial appointee) official of character and ability."

In 1933, then Home Minister Baron Tatsuo Yamamoto expressed the Government in favor of official appointment of the head of a Tokyo Metropolis, at least in the initial stage. "Government appointment would not necessarily mean the destruction of autonomy," he explained, "and the time will probably come for a return to the system of autonomous election."

"The head of the Tokyo Metropolis should be elected by the Assembly," Torajiro Ushizuka, former Mayor of Tokyo, contended, "because the proposed Metropolis, in its essentials, is an autonomous administrative organ. Government appointment would run counter to the principles of autonomy. Traditionally, the Municipal Assembly, on its own responsibility, has secured the services of capable men as mayors. That is where the merit of autonomy lies. Government appointment of the Metropolis Governor would destroy that merit. Not only that, but a Government-appointed administrative head would not be assured of a fixed term of office, and this would be detrimental to the smooth operation of autonomous administration."

New Future Face Tokyoites

But all this is a thing of the past. The Metropolis of Tokyo has made its powerful debut. It is only to be hoped that the Government will pay serious attention to the popular demand as reflected in the Diet deliberations on the bill. In passing the bill, the Diet made the following stipulations:

1. Circumspection should be used in the appointment of the Metropolis Governor and careful consideration should be paid to his status.
2. General and police administration should be operated on a unified basis.
3. Air defense activities should be conducted on a unified basis.

The former Tokyo Municipality had a total staff of 48,000 and the former Tokyo Prefecture 6,000. By re-employing them, the new Metropolis of Tokyo has ample manpower for the satisfactory operation of the metropolitan administration. "The position of the former Municipality employees will not be jeopardized by the change," the Government declared, and that, "when re-employed as Metropolis officials, they will not only be given the customary retiring allowances and special bonuses, but will be entitled to due consideration as regards pensions." The former Municipal employees can, therefore, make whole-hearted devotion to their duties under the new administration as they did under the old.

Last but not least, there is every reason to believe that administrative renovations such as the Home Minister proposed when he introduced the bill can be realized. For one thing, the block associations and neighborhood units—the backbone of autonomy—have undergone healthy development. This progress must have been reflected in the former Tokyo Municipal Assembly, for former Deputy Mayor Omura recently observed: "I find the Municipality better and more efficient than prefectural assemblies of ten years ago when I held various local government posts." The citizens of the Metropolis should keep the fire of their constructive zeal burning.